

The **PRODUCER**

Vol. III

DENVER, COLORADO

No. 11



AMERICAN NATIONAL SOCIETY
OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICAL
ARTISTS

APRIL 1922

Official Organ of the
**AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK
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PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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(Entered as Second-Class Matter June 11, 1919, at the Post Office at Denver, Colorado, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for Mailing at Special Rate of Postage Provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, Authorized on September 21, 1921.)

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HELENA, MONT. December 21, 1921.

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President, National Wool Warehouse & Storage Co.,

Chicago, Illinois.

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By



Its President.

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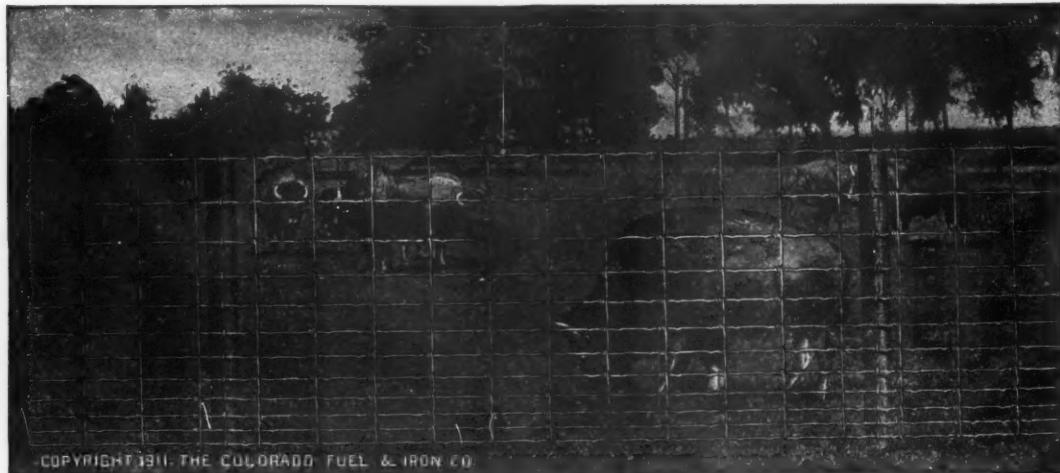
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THE PRODUCER

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MONTHLY

Volume III

DENVER, COLO., APRIL, 1922

Number 11

The J A Ranch

BY T. D. HOBART

Paloduro, Texas

THE FAMOUS J A RANCH is located in Armstrong, Briscoe, Donley, and Hall Counties in the Panhandle of Texas. It formerly extended into Randall and Swisher Counties. It enjoys the distinction of being the oldest permanent ranch in that part of the state.

In the early sixties Colonel Charles Goodnight, in the capacity of scout for a company of Texas Rangers, passed near the lower end of the Paloduro Canyon, which crosses this ranch from west to east. The impressions made on him at that time as to the possibilities of this region as a cattle country were lasting, and he was enabled to turn the knowledge thus gained to good account in later years.

In 1874 Mr. and Mrs. John G. Adair left their home in Ireland for a buffalo hunt on the western plains of the United States. They were warned by General Sheridan not to go south of the Arkansas River, owing to the danger from the Indians, as several tribes were then on the war-path in that locality. They accordingly confined their hunt to the region near the Platte River

in Nebraska. So favorable was their impression of this western country that they made another trip to America the following year, with a view to acquiring a large body of land and engaging in the cattle business.

It was on this trip, in 1875, that they first met Colonel Goodnight, who was introduced to them as a man with an extensive knowledge of western conditions, experienced in the cattle business, and thoroughly reliable—all of which subsequently proved true. They accordingly entered into an agreement with the colonel to the effect that they would furnish the means for him to establish a ranch in the Panhandle of Texas, which he was to manage and develop for five years. This period was later extended to ten years, at the end of which time a division was to be made, Colonel Goodnight to receive one-third of the land, cattle, and horses, after reimbursing Mr. and Mrs. Adair for one-third of the money invested.

Colonel Goodnight moved the first herd of cattle to the Paloduro Canyon late in the fall of 1876, establishing his headquarters at a place later known as



MRS. ADAIR AND COLONEL GOODNIGHT, APRIL, 1921



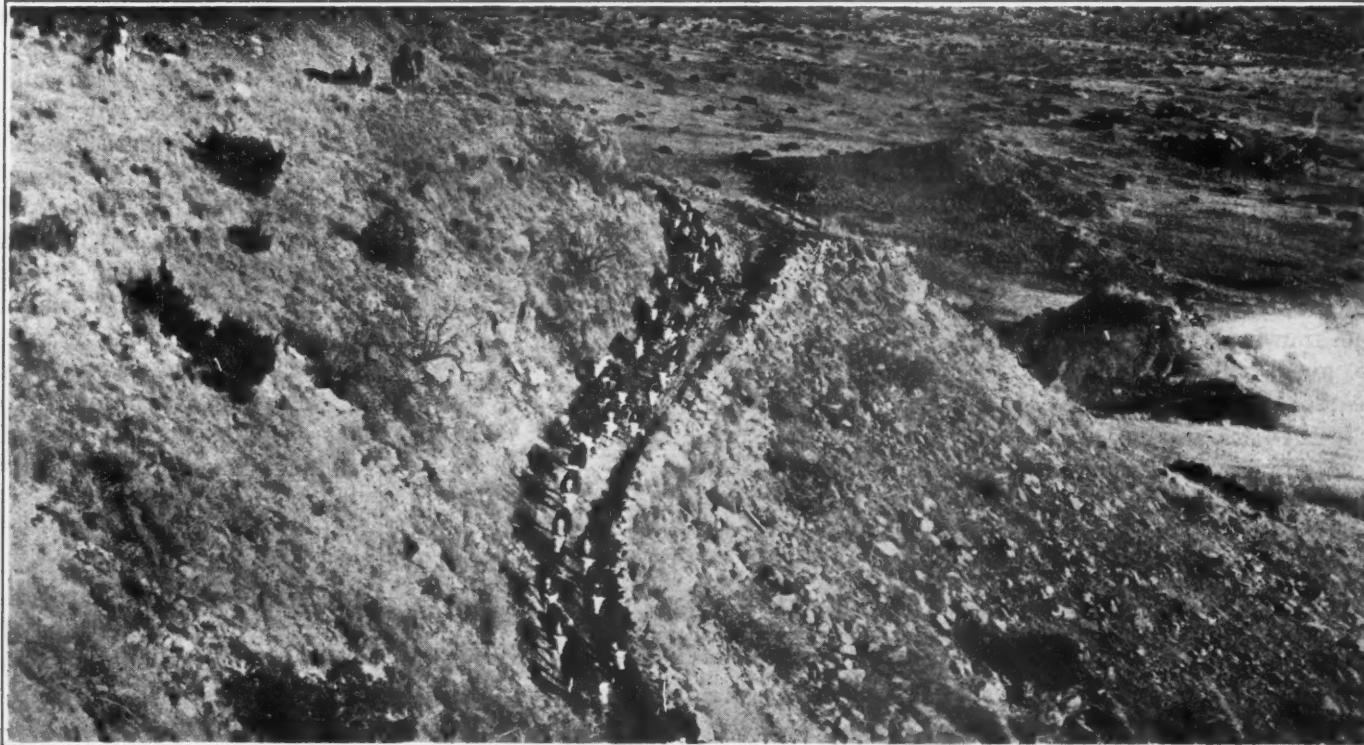
J A HEADQUARTERS

the Old Home Ranch. In 1878 he established the present headquarters at Paloduro, which was a more central point on the ranch, overlooking the beautiful Mulberry Flat. This first herd of cattle consisted of some 1,600 head of fairly well-bred cows, eighty-six head being pure-bred Durhams. Two herds were established. The main herd was known as the J A, and the other as the J J, the foundation of the latter consisting of the Durham cows. This herd was built up by crossing pure-bred Hereford bulls with them and by a further addition of well-bred cows.

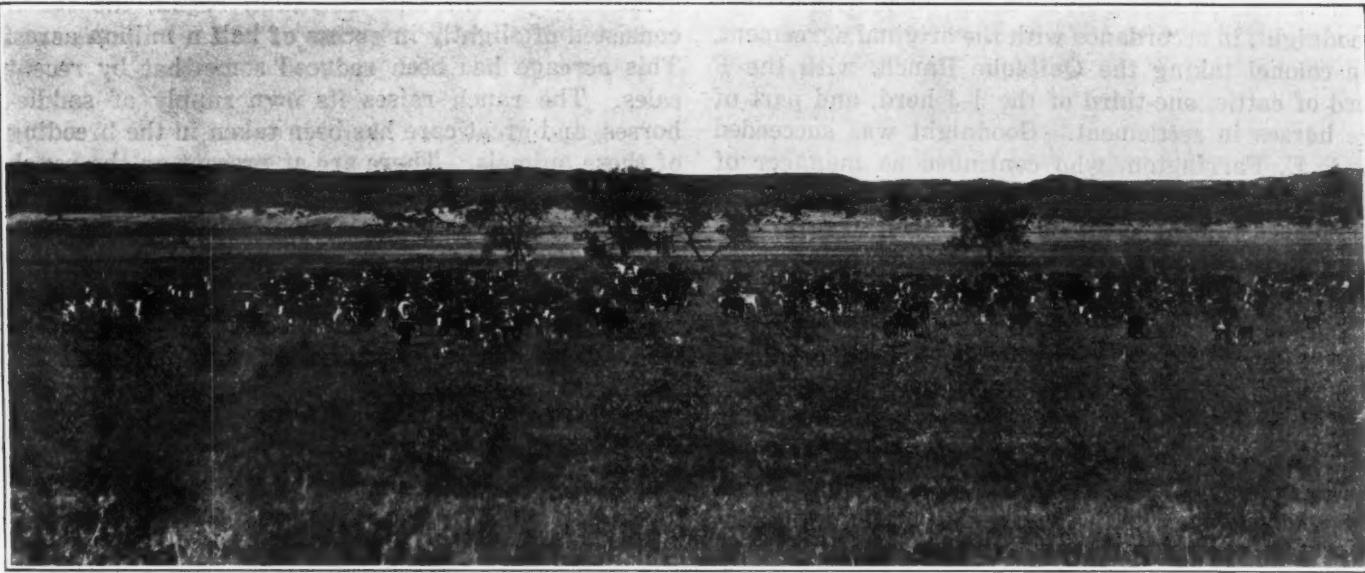
The J J herd increased until at one time it numbered some 9,000 head of high-grade Hereford cattle,

with a calf-branding of more than 2,000 head. It was used in part to supply bulls for the main herd. The main, or J A, herd at one time reached a maximum of 65,000 cattle, with a calf-branding of 16,000 head, not including the Quitaque. Colonel Goodnight, realizing the value of good blood, was one of the first to bring pure-bred bulls into this section of the country, and early in the eighties he purchased from O. H. Nelson 300 high-grade and pure-bred Hereford bulls. These, with the constant raising and importation of good blood, had a marked effect on the main herd.

Colonel Goodnight located a large amount of land.



J A YEARLING HEIFERS COMING DOWN TRAIL INTO CANYON



PART OF MAIN J A HERD

At a later date what was known as the Tule Ranch was located, joining the main ranch on the southwest. The Quitaque Ranch in Briscoe, Floyd, and Motley Counties was also established by Colonel Goodnight, and managed by him for Mr. Adair, the colonel having no personal interest in it until the division of the property in 1887. On this ranch was established the celebrated F herd, the foundation being Shorthorn cows.

The land-holdings were gradually increased by purchase and lease until at one time the land actually grazed by the combined interests reached a total of

more than a million acres. The first fencing was done in 1882, when a drift-fence was built on the north, through Armstrong and part of Donley County, to keep back the herds that continually drifted in from that direction.

Mr. and Mrs. Adair first visited the ranch in 1877, when they accompanied Colonel and Mrs. Goodnight with their outfit from Trinidad, Colorado; Mrs. Adair and Mrs. Goodnight riding horseback practically all the way—a distance of some 300 miles.

Mr. Adair died in 1885, and all his interests passed to Mrs. Adair, who remained the sole owner as long



MRS. ADAIR AND HER BOYS CELEBRATING HER EIGHTY-FOURTH BIRTHDAY

as she lived. In 1887 a division was made with Colonel Goodnight, in accordance with the original agreement, the colonel taking the Quitaque Ranch, with the F herd of cattle, one-third of the J J herd, and part of the horses in settlement. Goodnight was succeeded by J. E. Farrington, who continued as manager of the property for three years, when Arthur Tisdale was placed in charge for one year. He, in turn, was followed by Richard Walsh, who became manager in 1892 and continued in that capacity until 1910.

Mr. Walsh came out to the ranch from Ireland in 1885. Beginning at the lowest round of the ladder, he passed through the various phases of ranch work, until he was fully equipped for the responsible position he later assumed. It remained for him to make the greatest impress on the ranch in various ways, and wisely did he build on the foundations laid by Colonel Goodnight. It was Mr. Walsh's ambition to build up one of the best herds of cattle in the country. How well he succeeded is known to every cattleman. He spared neither pains nor expense in trimming the herds and in securing good blood. In 1901 a carload of J A steers won the grand championship at the International Live Stock Exposition in Chicago, and in 1904 another carload won the grand championship at the St. Louis World's Fair.

In the early nineties many settlers located on school lands on the range. It fell to Mr. Walsh's lot to deal with these. This he accomplished in a tactful manner, purchasing many of their claims after they had secured titles, or giving them in exchange lands on the outside of the range. In this way he succeeded in practically consolidating Mrs. Adair's holdings.

Mr. Walsh resigned in 1910, and later became identified with the British South Africa Company in Rhodesia, in which country he introduced modern cattle-ranching methods. He was succeeded at the J A ranch by John Summerfield, who held the position for one year. Mr. Summerfield was followed by James W. Wadsworth, Jr., who took charge in 1911, and continued as manager until June 1, 1915, when, owing to his election to the United States Senate from New York, he resigned, and the writer of this sketch took charge.

From the establishment of the ranch down through the various managements the property has been constantly improved by subdividing into pastures, increasing the water supply, constructing camps at convenient places, etc. Especially was this true during the administration of Senator Wadsworth, who built numerous cement storage reservoirs, developed springs that previously afforded very little water, subdivided the large pastures, and made other extensive improvements. During the past six years the improvement of the herds has been consistently carried forward, and much has been accomplished in the way of making an accurate survey of the property.

When the present administration began, the ranch consisted of slightly in excess of half a million acres. This acreage has been reduced somewhat by recent sales. The ranch raises its own supply of saddle-horses, and great care has been taken in the breeding of these animals. There are at present on the ranch 800 horses and mules, and 28,554 head of cattle, including both herds. The annual calf-branding averages 10,000.

In these peaceful times it is hard for one to realize the difficulties besetting the path of the pioneers who established ranches at that early day, and the distances that cattle had to be driven to market and supplies hauled to the ranch. In the early days the buffaloes, which were still present in great numbers, had to be driven back in order to save the range for the cattle. The Indians had been pretty well subdued in 1874 by the troops under Generals McKenzie and Miles. The redskins, however, were followed by an element almost as annoying, in the persons of outlaw white men. These finally followed the Indians to the "happy hunting-grounds" or some other far-distant places.

Mrs. Adair carefully preserved the old log-house erected by Colonel Goodnight at the present headquarters, and adjacent to it built a commodious modern home. She often visited the ranch, and in later years spent much of her time there. In fact, she seemed more contented at the ranch than anywhere else.

In April, 1921, Colonel Goodnight visited Mrs. Adair at the ranch, and many of the early scenes were reviewed. It was a great source of satisfaction to those old pioneers to recall that so many young men who had received their early training there had gone out to become useful and prominent citizens in the various communities in which they settled.

Mrs. Adair was a truly remarkable woman, ever thoughtful of others, especially of the ranch employees. She loved the ranch; she loved Texas and its people. She passed away in England on September 22, 1921. It had evidently been her wish that, when the call came, it might find her at the ranch, as she had frequently expressed a desire that her last resting-place might be in the little cemetery near the headquarters.

MEAT CONSUMPTION IN JANUARY

APPARENT PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION of federally inspected meat during the month of January, 1922, as compared with January, 1921, was as below (in pounds), according to data published by the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates:

	Jan., 1922	Jan., 1921
Beef and veal.....	3.56	3.57
Pork (including lard).....	4.47	3.94
Lamb and mutton.....	0.37	0.44
Totals	8.40	7.95

Valuation of Land for Taxation Purposes

BY J. B. WILSON

Secretary, Wyoming Wool Growers' Association

PROBABLY no question today is of greater interest to stockmen in the Rocky Mountain states than that of taxation—particularly taxation of grazing lands. If the owner of a city building which could be rented for, say, \$500 a year were called upon to pay annual taxes on it amounting to \$600, or even \$400 or \$500, he would feel that his property was being confiscated; and he would not be far from right. If the owner of an investment bearing 7 per cent interest had to pay state, county, and school-district taxes on it aggregating 8 per cent, or even 6 or 7 per cent, he would consider the tax confiscatory; and it would be. Yet thousands of acres of grazing land in the Rocky Mountain states, owned by private individuals and corporations, can actually be rented for a price per acre approximately equal to the annual taxes on similar land. The stockman or other owner of such land has sometimes failed to realize that such is the situation. One trouble with stockmen and farmers is that they do not sufficiently analyze their own business. That is one of the many reasons why their business is today in such deplorable condition. If the terrific drubbing which they have taken can awaken them to the facts, they will at least profit to some extent from their misfortunes.

When a business man is offered an investment at a certain price, how does he in his own mind determine whether that price is fair? Let us say that he proposes to buy a factory which is and has been a going concern. He finds out, if he can, the original cost, and how much it would take to duplicate it; and, if similar properties have recently been sold, he considers the selling price. But the final and conclusive test of value is the earnings, averaged over a term of years, of that business. Unless he believes that it is capable of earning a net revenue of a reasonable percentage on the proposed purchase price, he will leave the proposition severely alone.

If the banker is considering a loan to the owner of business property, he will consider, not only the character of the borrower and the apparent net value, or so-called market value, of the property offered as security, but also the probable ability of the borrower to pay the loan within the expected time. This means that the ability of the property to produce net returns in proportion to the value claimed for it must be verified.

Why, then, should not the assessor view the valuation of real property (and grazing land especially) in the same light as if he were buying for a personal investment?

It is generally conceded that taxes, to be equitably

distributed, should be based upon the relative ability of each taxpayer to pay. It has been truly said that the power to tax is the power to destroy, and we submit that, if any taxpayer is compelled to pay taxes grossly out of proportion to his ability to pay, his capital becomes impaired and his business is forced to operate under a tremendous handicap, and may eventually be destroyed, while his more fortunate fellow-taxpayers benefit at his expense.

But ability to pay hinges entirely upon ability to earn. In fact, for all practical purposes the two are synonymous. Hence we get back to the proposition, which every business man knows, that earning power—or, in other words, "the value of use"—is really the final test of the real value of any business property or permanent investment of any kind.

It is a notorious fact that all over the West grazing lands are being valued, for taxation purposes, at many times the number of dollars per acre which is warranted by the rental value, or the value of the annual crop of grass produced thereon; in other words, the value of the annual use of the land to the stockman. Let anyone who doubts this analyze the proposition. From three to ten acres of grazing land are required to support one sheep throughout the year, and a proportionate amount for cattle—say, from twenty to eighty acres. If grazing land is supposed to be worth, say, \$5 per acre, then the value of its annual use to the owner ought to be a fair rate of interest on its value—say, 6 per cent—plus taxes; or, say, 8 per cent altogether, or 40 cents per acre. This would require that a grazing charge of from \$1.20 to \$4 per head per year for sheep, or from \$8 to \$32 per head per year for cattle, be reckoned for use of pasture alone, in order that the owner may realize 6 per cent net on his total investment. This, of course, assumes that the stockman is grazing entirely on land which he owns. Stockmen who have engaged in this business for years know that such a charge for grazing stock is excessive and not warranted by past experience. It is because practically all stockmen have access to some land which they rent, or which is public domain or forest reserve, that the facts stated are not fully realized. But we repeat that stockmen must recognize that the public range is being slowly but surely settled, and that, as they are required to own more and more of their grazing land, they must face more and more this problem.

Surely the stockman or farmer, as well as the merchant, the manufacturer, the railroad company, and the man in any other line of business, is fairly entitled to expect a reasonable net return year in and

year out on the fair value of all the assets of his business over and above the expense of conducting that business—provided, of course, that his business is competently managed.

It must be conceded that, if a section of good farm land is deliberately used for stock pasture, whereas it is capable of producing large returns under cultivation, its owner cannot fairly claim that it is worth no more than common grazing land. But, on the other hand, we believe that the owner has the right to insist that its valuation shall not exceed that figure which would be warranted by its net returns—or, in other words, the value of its use—if farmed. In a country where the extent of the permanent financial success of dry-farming is still in question, such success ought to be proved beyond doubt before the stockman is saddled with the burden of increased taxes brought about by raising the valuation of his land to figures far above its known worth as grazing land; and the valuation of grazing lands not suitable for farming ought in no event to be based upon farm values.

The truth is that we have just passed through a period of land speculation, and prices of land have been based upon the *buyer's belief* as to what was its value, rather than upon actual practical experience over a term of years. More frequently than not this buyer was a middle-western farmer with no knowledge of western conditions. Soaring prices for farm products during the war have caused, all over the country, a fever of land-buying and land-price inflation which has not been effectually checked. So-called market prices of land have soared, and the assessor is not to be blamed for raising his valuations so long as sales prices were his only guide. Rather should the farmer and ranchman himself be blamed, who allowed himself to be persuaded that war prices were going to last, and who forced up the price of land by ill-considered purchases at high prices. Whoever is at fault, the fact remains that, because of the tremendous increase in valuations of farm and grazing lands during the war, the farmers and stockmen find themselves bearing a burden of taxation out of all proportion to that of other lines of business—a burden so heavy that it absorbs all, and sometimes more, of the annual value of the use of their lands, so that that part of their capital which is invested in land is deprived of any return.

If, instead of basing tax valuations solely upon so-called market prices, the assessor were required to give due consideration to what we might call the intrinsic or real value of real property, as distinguished from the so-called market price, we believe that then, and then only, would the farmer and stockman be relieved of the excess burden of taxation which he now has to bear. And, in determining this intrinsic or real value, the main consideration should be the earning power of the property—the value of its use.

It was for these reasons that a committee of the Wyoming Wool Growers' Association endeavored to secure the passage of an amendment to the present law in Wyoming, so that the value of the use of real estate, during normal or average business conditions, should be the principal guide in determining the value of such real property for taxation purposes. While this failed of passage, we still believe that it ought to be made effective. Surely the object sought is fair to all taxpayers, because it seeks to gauge the taxes which each is required to pay according to the relative ability to pay. We urge that stockmen and farmers give this matter their earnest and careful consideration. While the principle we are presenting may be a new method of determining valuation for taxation purposes, it has been applied by business men in their own business as long as modern business ideas have existed.

NATIONAL LIVE STOCK AND MEAT BOARD ORGANIZES

MARCH 10 the duly accredited representatives of the various interests which have united to conduct an educational campaign with the object of increasing the consumption of meat met in Chicago and organized the National Live Stock and Meat Board, under the plan submitted by the committee appointed at the initial conference in December, of which E. L. Burke, of Omaha, was chairman, and whose recommendations were printed in full in the January PRODUCER (pages 11 and 12). This plan, as will be remembered, provided for representation on the following basis: live-stock producers' organizations, eleven; Institute of American Meat Packers, two; commission men, two; meat retailers, two. Each group participating having chosen its quota of representatives according to this allotment, the board is composed of the following seventeen members:

For the Producers—

American National Live Stock Association:

E. L. Burke, Omaha, Neb.

C. M. O'Donel, Bell Ranch, N. M.

National Swine Growers' Association:

Fred H. Moore, Rochester, Ind.

W. J. Carmichael, Chicago, Ill.

National Wool Growers' Association:

F. R. Marshall, Salt Lake City, Utah.

American Farm Bureau Federation:

Howard Leonard, Eureka, Ill.

J. W. Coverdale, Chicago, Ill.

Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association:

E. B. Spiller, Fort Worth, Tex.

Corn Belt Meat Producers' Association:

R. M. Gunn, Buckingham, Iowa.

Kansas Live Stock Association:

J. H. Mercer, Topeka, Kan.

National Society of Record Associations:

J. L. Tormey, Chicago, Ill.

For the Packers—

Institute of American Meat Packers:

Thomas E. Wilson, Chicago, Ill.

F. Edson White, Chicago, Ill.

For the Commission Men—

National Live Stock Exchange:

Everett C. Brown, Chicago, Ill.

W. B. Tagg, Omaha, Neb.

For the Retailers—

United Master Butchers of America:

John T. Russell, Chicago, Ill.

National Association of Retail Grocers:

H. C. Balsiger, Kansas City, Mo.

Of these, Messrs. Burke, Gunn, Tormey, and Russell were unable to attend the Chicago meeting. In their stead, D. A. Millett, Denver, Colo.; A. Sykes, Ida Grove, Iowa; R. P. Stericker, Chicago, Ill., and John A. Kotal, Chicago, Ill., served as substitutes in the order given.

The board proceeded to organize by the election of the following officers: Howard Leonard, chairman; Thomas E. Wilson, vice-chairman; W. J. Carmichael, secretary; Everett C. Brown, treasurer.

In the plan as originally formulated it was provided that—

"The National Live Stock and Meat Board at its initial meeting shall create a central working executive committee, which shall be composed of four representatives of the producers, one representative of the retailers, one representative of the packers, and one representative of the commission men. [Each member of this executive committee shall have one vote, thus giving to the producers four votes, to the packers one vote, to the commission men one vote, and to the retailers one vote.] Each of these four groups, by its representatives on the board, shall select annually its representatives on the executive committee."

This paragraph was modified by the omission of the sentence placed between brackets and substituting therefor the following clause: "in addition to the officers, who shall be members of the executive committee with full voting power."

In addition to the four ex-officio members of the executive committee thus designated, the following members were selected: C. M. O'Donel, F. R. Marshall, R. M. Gunn, E. B. Spiller, F. Edson White, W. B. Tagg, and John T. Russell. Instead of seven members, four of whom were to represent producers, the committee accordingly has a membership of eleven, with six producer representatives.

A committee on finance, consisting of Howard Leonard, Thomas E. Wilson, and Everett C. Brown, was appointed and authorized to arrange for the financing of the movement on the lines suggested in the plan. This proposal contemplates a levy of ten cents on each carload of live stock sent to market—five cents from the shipper and an equal amount from the buyer—to be collected through the commission men. In his report to the board Mr. Brown stated that the feeling prevailed among commission men that such a collection would not be feasible without specific instructions from the shippers. To that end, he recommended that officers of live-stock organizations try to arrange for such authorization, and Secretary Carmichael accordingly requests that individual live-stock producers and officials of associations communicate with their commission men, co-operative or otherwise, with the president of the live-stock exchange in the market at which they commonly sell their live stock, and with Mr. Brown, president of the National Live Stock Exchange at Chicago, urging that commission men set aside the ten-cent-per-car collection.

A resolution was passed recommending the appointment of a committee "to confer with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, and any other necessary parties in interest, with a view of urging that the Department of Agriculture receive and use an adequate appropriation for conducting research work on animal protein."

Concerning the significance and objects of the board, Secretary Carmichael, in his first official announcement, has this to say:

"The formation of the National Live Stock and Meat Board means that for the first time an agency has been brought into existence which can give to meat an effective and adequate champion. It means also that the meats produced from the farmers' cattle, swine, and sheep shall be protected from such misstatements and attacks as have been visited on them in recent years, and that beef, pork, and lamb shall be properly appraised with respect to their legitimate place in the diet. Perhaps the creation of the board also means that the two and one-half billion pounds of potential meat con-

sumption which were lost in the calendar year 1921, through a decrease in meat consumption per capita of 25.5 pounds as compared with the rate prevailing two decades ago, shall be gradually regained. Such a result, of course, would increase greatly the demand for the farmers' live stock, and would bring economic benefits to producer and consumer alike.

"The members of the National Live Stock and Meat Board outlined a policy embodying a constructive campaign for increasing meat consumption by spreading the truth about meat rather than by disparaging other food commodities. It was the consensus of the board that extensive, impartial research should be conducted to develop further facts relative to the use, place, and importance of meat in the diet; also, that practical efforts calculated to yield immediate results, both affirmative and corrective, should be initiated promptly.

"If meat consumption per capita can be increased through the efforts of the board by one-half pound per week, it will be restored approximately to the 1900 basis. This would add many millions of dollars to the value of the producers' live stock or would provide a market for millions of additional meat animals, or both."

* * *

At a meeting of the executive committee of the National Live Stock Exchange in Chicago the following week the plan proposed by the National Live Stock and Meat Board was indorsed "in principle." This completes the list of indorsements of the four factors involved—producers, packers, commission men, and retailers—and assures the financing of the campaign. Everett C. Brown, president of the National Live Stock Exchange, E. W. Houx, of Kansas City, and Will H. Wood, of Omaha, were appointed a committee to work out a practical method of collecting the ten-cent-a-car levy, to be submitted to the annual convention of the exchange in Kansas City on May 18.

ATTORNEY COWAN REVIEWS HIS WORK AT WASHINGTON

IN A REPORT submitted to the Executive Committee of the American National Live Stock Association, reviewing his activities since the Colorado Springs convention, Attorney S. H. Cowan says in part:

"The first matter to come up was the National Agricultural Conference called by Secretary Wallace for January 23. The meeting has been fully reported, and I should call it very successful. Every resolution proposed by the live-stock interests was substantially adopted.

"The following are other matters in which I have been engaged: The hearings being conducted by the Interstate Commerce Commission as to what the future of the rate situation shall be; consideration by the Senate committee as to what shall be done respecting the repeal of the 'guaranty clause,' Section 15-a of the Transportation Act; the hearing of the live-stock part of the general rate investigation; the preparation for presentation to the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce of the data and argument in behalf of the Sweet bill to repeal Section 15-a and to restore the rate-making power of the states. I have co-operated with whatever activity has been shown by others in these matters, and we have taken a leading part in handling them, as far as the live-stock interests are concerned.

"Today the situation of No. 12146—our big western live-stock rate case—is that it is open and undecided upon the submission and arguments of our motion for modification of the findings of the commission and our prayer for further reduction in the rates which were allowed in the original decision.

"I have also taken up the demand for lower rates for the movement of range cattle this spring to northern pastures. Senator Kendrick and I have worked together in this matter. Our petition has been presented to the commission, outlining the necessity for this reduction and pointing out the fact that, while last year, when the railroads put in the emergency rates taking off the advances of Ex Parte 74, money could not be had to finance the business, this obstacle has now been removed, and therefore it is imperative to get these rates to help out the cattlemen and pasturemen of the West. This matter is in progress. A conference between the railroads, shippers, and

the commission has been arranged for, to be held at Washington during the latter part of March. Our petition has been lodged for filing and will form the basis of this discussion. Should no results come from the conference, the petition may be set down for hearing to secure the relief asked for in our pending motion for modification in No. 12146.

"The most important matter confronting the live-stock and all other agricultural interests at present is the repeal of Section 15-a of the Transportation Act, which fixes the percentage of aggregate net income as a basis of rates and destroys the control of the states over intrastate rates, and a return to the standards of rate-making which were successful since the passage of the Hepburn bill down to the war. That standard represents the sound judgment of the commission under all circumstances. It has developed in the hearings before the House committee that there is a combination of railway supply and material men, and others in high places in big industry, to influence Congress and prevent the repeal of this section. It should be remembered that the advances made in rates on live stock in the Western District, added to the wartime rates, levy a tax of \$30,000,000 to \$40,000,000 a year—more than the whole transportation cost on live stock in the West at the highest period before the war. The rights and remedies of shippers are destroyed by this iniquitous law; and, of course, under the recent Supreme Court decision the states are wiped off the map. The people everywhere ought to let the administration know that this relief has got to come. It would be impossible to overstate the importance of this matter."

TEXAS ASSOCIATION HAS SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION

A LARGE ATTENDANCE marked the annual convention of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association, held at Fort Worth March 14-16, 1922. Many notable addresses were delivered. Among the speakers were Thomas E. Wilson, president of the Institute of American Meat Packers; Chester Morrill, in charge of the administration of the Packers and Stock-Yards Act; C. B. Denman, of the National Live Stock Producers' Association; Eugene Meyer, managing director of the War Finance Corporation; and Fred H. Bixby, president of the American National Live Stock Association. The latter gave a very forceful talk, followed with the closest attention, in which he reviewed the whole situation surrounding the live-stock industry, told of the activities of the National Association, and urged the importance of organization and co-operation. The liveliest interest in these subjects was manifested throughout the meeting, stimulated by growing discontent over increased commission charges, and indications were that the co-operative companies established or to be established will have the strong support of the membership of the Texas organization.

Resolutions were passed—

Urging passage of state law making contractual rate of interest not more than 8 per cent, including commissions and bonuses;

Petitioning federal government to establish additional port facilities on Texas coast;

Demanding extension for twelve months of powers granted War Finance Corporation;

Approving plan of National Live Stock and Meat Board for conducting campaign to increase consumption of meat;

Denouncing tariff policy which discriminates against live-stock producers and farmers;

Recommending amending Farm Loan Act to include more fully grazing lands and improvements, and to increase loan limit;

Requesting Secretary of Agriculture to investigate excessive live-stock commission charges;

Indorsing action of certain members of Congress in protecting interests of agricultural producers;

Pledging hearty support to American National Live Stock Association;

Appreciating services rendered by THE PRODUCER and *The Cattleman*, and urging each member to become a subscriber to these magazines;

Requesting Secretary of Agriculture to promulgate rules compelling commission companies to testify in cattle-larceny cases;

Indorsing co-operative live-stock marketing plan worked out by Committee of Fifteen;

Urging repeal of Section 15-a (guaranty clause) of Transportation Act, favoring such other legislation as will protect public against obligation to pay rates founded on unfair valuation of railroads, and commanding resolution on this subject adopted by American National Live Stock Association at Colorado Springs;

Expressing thanks to W. W. Turney, retiring president, for his invaluable services to association.

The new officers elected were: Cyrus B. Lucas, president; H. L. Johnson, first vice-president; R. M. Kleberg, second vice-president; S. B. Burnett, treasurer; E. B. Spiller, secretary.

NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION MEETS

A LARGE DELEGATION of stockmen from all parts of the state attended the annual convention of the New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' Association, held in Las Vegas on March 20 and 21. The discussion centered largely around the same questions that have occupied the attention of other meetings of western live-stock producers during the past winter, and the same spirit of hopefulness and determination to attack the common problems with a consolidated front was manifest throughout.

Resolutions were adopted—

Favoring substantial tariff on live stock, agricultural and meat products, including hides, and urging immediate passage of Truth-in-Fabric Bill;

Urging that temporary reduction in freight rates on live stock be made permanent;

Praying that time for accepting loans by War Finance Corporation be extended to January 1, 1923;

Recommending prompt enactment of amendment to Federal Farm Loan Act to include more fully grazing lands and improvements, and to provide for substantial increase in loan limit;

Protesting against removal of Forest Service and Bureau of Markets from Department of Agriculture;

Indorsing Bursum bill for transfer of public domain from federal to state control;

Asking that grazing season in District 3 be made to begin January 1 and end December 31, that payments on yearly permits be made in two equal instalments, January 1 and July 1, and that short-time permit be paid in full either January 1 or July 1;

Requesting cancellation of grazing permits to persons using them for certain "experimental purposes;"

Requesting Secretary of Agriculture to investigate excessive live-stock commission charges;

Indorsing work of Biological Survey in eradication of predatory animals and crop-destroying rodents;

Expressing appreciation of work of New Mexico's representatives in Congress in interest of stockmen;

Calling on State Taxpayers' Association to furnish data on tax increases, with a view to adopting plan for effecting reduction;

Asking for law prohibiting bulls on public domain of less than three-quarter blood.

The new officers elected were: President—Hugh L. Hodge, Silver City; vice-presidents—C. M. O'Donel, Bell Ranch; J. H. McCamant, Gallup; J. A. Lusk, Carlsbad; George H. Webster, Cimarron; secretary—Bertha Benson, Albuquerque.

"You publish a paper that no stock-raiser can afford to be without."—A. L. MASON, Otis, Colo.

"I did not have opportunity until just the other evening to read your issue of March, and I enjoyed it so much that I feel I should write you a short note saying so—especially the articles by J. E. P. His articles are not only informative, but the touches of humor add spice to them."—MARSHALL FIELD, Dillon, Mont.

NEWS JOTTINGS FROM CALIFORNIA

BY R. M. HAGEN

Secretary, California Cattlemen's Association

AT A CONVENTION of county tax assessors in February a request presented by the California Cattlemen's Association for a 10 per cent reduction in cattle valuations was granted. The schedule now stands as follows: calves under three months, exempt; calves from three to twelve months old, \$5; stock cattle, \$18; steers over two years old, \$25; prime beef cattle, \$35.

Grass cattle will not come to market in California this year until early in May. Utah reports only 2,000 contracted cattle on feed, and about 2,000 more that are still unsold. Probably 75 per cent of these will come to California. Nevada reports fewer fat cattle on hand than at any time during the last ten years. Information from Arizona is to the effect that little, if any, beef will come off the range in that state this spring, and that the 6,000 cattle now on feed will be needed for local consumption. Oregon, Washington, and Idaho are about out of fat stock, and it is not expected that any cattle from these states will be shipped into California this spring.

There will not be any surplus of fat cattle to ship out of California during 1922. Normally this state exports about 20,000 head annually. During 1921 approximately 125,000 head were brought in for immediate slaughter.

The Southern Pacific Company has agreed to extend the time for return of caretakers of live stock from seventy-two hours to five days after arrival.

At a convention of Zone 5 of the California Cattlemen's Association on March 25, resolutions were passed pledging support to the Department of Agriculture in the administration of the Packers and Stock-Yards Act, condemning the action of packers in trying to substitute buying of cattle f. o. b. packing plant for the old method of buying on the ranch, urging the extension of the life of the War Finance Corporation until July 1, 1923, and opposing the establishment of stock-yards in California.

CATTLE-FEEDING TESTS AT WASHINGTON EXPERIMENT STATION

BY H. HACKEDORN

Department of Animal Husbandry

SILAGE did not become an important feed in this country until the Corn Belt farmer began to search for a cheaper roughage than hay for fattening. Corn there rapidly became the outstanding silage crop. In the high valleys of the West, however, corn did not prove so successful. In eastern Washington, where frost comes early and the summers are dry, corn does not yield sufficient tonnage per acre. At the Washington Experiment Station a yield of from six to eight tons has been obtained. While the quality of the corn silage has been as good as, if not better than, that produced in the Corn Belt, the yield has been too low to be entirely satisfactory.

Many other crops have been tried at the various western experiment stations, but the sunflower (Mammoth Russian), with its abundant yield of green feed, under many conditions has proved the most acceptable. At the Washington Experiment Station in Pullman a yield of from ten to sixteen tons of sunflowers has been recorded, twelve tons being the average. This plant stands frost and drought much better than corn. The silage from it does not appear to be so palatable, but is readily eaten by both cattle and sheep.

To try out these two silages as a cattle feed, two lots of grade Shorthorn and Hereford steers were fed for a seventy-

five-day period, beginning December 2, 1921. The following rations were fed per head per day (pounds):

	Silage	Alfalfa Hay	Cottonseed Meal
Corn-silage lot	39.6	13.2	2.0
Sunflower-silage lot	43.0	12.5	2.1

Both lots had shelter from rain in a shed open to the south. Free access to salt and water was provided. The weather was uniformly cold during the test.

The following table gives the summary of the feeding tests:

	Sunflower Silage	Corn Silage
Length of test (days)	75	75
Number of cattle	12	13
Initial weight (pounds)	967.2	951.6
Final weight	1,057.6	1,041.9
Total gain	90.4	90.3
Daily gain	1.2	1.2
Daily ration		
Silage	43.0	39.6
Alfalfa hay (cut)	12.5	13.2
Cottonseed meal (choice)	2.1	2.0
Feed per 100 pounds' gain		
Silage	3,618.3	3,294.6
Alfalfa hay	1,033.8	1,098.2
Cottonseed meal (choice)	177.8	169.9
Total feed (per steer, 75 days)		
Silage	3,273.1	2,975.0
Alfalfa hay	935.2	991.7
Cottonseed meal	160.7	153.4
Financial statement (per steer)		
Cost at 5 cents per pound	\$48.36	\$49.58
Total feed cost	\$13.50	\$15.97
Necessary selling price at feed-lot	\$61.86	\$65.55
Necessary selling price per cwt	\$ 5.85	\$ 6.29

The finish of the two lots was quite uniform. The appraising committee rated them equal, and they sold at the same price at Spokane. Nine head out of each lot sold for \$7.25. Four head out of the corn-silage lot and three out of the sunflower-silage lot sold at \$6.50.

The results show that 3 pounds of corn silage was equivalent to 3½ pounds of sunflower silage; or, in other words, that the corn silage was 16 per cent more efficient per pound. However, considering the greater yield of green feed obtained from the sunflowers per acre, it is certain that this plant will have a place on eastern Washington stock farms.

NEW CO-OPERATIVE COMMISSION COMPANIES

AT A MEETING of the executive committee of the National Live Stock Producers' Association held in Chicago on March 9-10 it was decided to establish a co-operative commission company at the Union Stock-Yards, Chicago. Seven directors were selected and empowered to proceed at once with the undertaking.

Authority has been granted to the Illinois Agricultural Association to organize a co-operative live-stock commission company at the Peoria stock-yards under the national plan. Ten counties in central Illinois will be served by this new terminal.

Steps are being taken to complete state-wide organization of co-operative live-stock shipping associations in Indiana, with a view to establishing a producers' commission association at Indianapolis.

The Producers' Live Stock Commission Association, which opened for business at the National Stock-Yards in East St. Louis on January 2, has already attained the enviable position of ranking first in volume of transactions among the fifty-five commission firms at that market.

CORN BELT FARMER IN BETTER MOOD

BY JAMES E. POOLE

THIS IS WRITTEN after a ten-day scout through part of the Corn Belt. Optimism of the conservative variety was encountered everywhere. It originated—or, having been latent, had its impetus—in the January advance in hogs, followed by the appreciation in corn, which not only silenced the relatively few advocates of the policy of corn-burning, but checked the rising tide of the anvil chorus of corn-acreage restrictors. Cattle have paid well for the corn consumed, and in many instances the feeding operation has been highly profitable; the hog market has ruled several dollars per hundredweight above expectation, and in the case of sheep and lambs financial results of the season have been without precedent. Considerable corn has gone to the terminal markets, and much remains in the crib, although it is no longer regarded as a liability.

As a logical result of all this, the psychological condition of the average Corn Belt farmer has undergone a radical improvement. The banking situation is decidedly easier, and, although there has been no marked decline in the rate of interest, the farmer who has not previously been categorized as a "lame duck" does not find both thumbs turned down when he seeks financial accommodation. War Finance Corporation activity has been effective at a critical moment, actually turning the tide in a favorable direction. In the case of Iowa, as a concrete example, about \$22,000,000 has been put into agricultural loans by this agency, relieving the local banks of pressing federal-reserve obligations, thereby thawing out frozen credits and clearing the decks for action. Everybody has not, of course, been able to get a piece of this War Finance Corporation money, but it has gone into many channels where it was badly needed, at a time when it did the most good possible. A stream of money has been moving from interior banks to Des Moines and Chicago. In fact, the situation is gradually liquidating itself.

From this it must not be inferred that the farmer is in a mental condition bordering on exuberance. On the contrary, he realizes that he is merely digging his way out; but he also realizes the possibility of extricating himself from the deplorable condition of 1921, when, in many instances, his case appeared hopeless. Some have weathered the brunt of the storm, but are still in distress; others are well over the border line of trouble; and there is an element that did the part of bystander during the turmoil, never having ventured into deep water.

Laudation of the federal-reserve system has subsided. In fact, one hears much criticism of the manner in which that organization put on the screws, in a financial sense, at an inopportune moment, thereby pushing the farmer over the edge of a precipice, instead of following the more rational policy of leading him down to normalcy, if that overworked term is permissible, by easy stages. The result of this was that many who were reasonably solvent were forced to the wall; others experienced necessity for ruinous liquidation that could, in their opinion, have been avoided. The federal-reserve crew is openly accused of countenancing inflation up to a stage where conditions assumed a menacing attitude, and then applying the brakes instantaneously and clumsily, jarring and damaging the whole machine. The fact that the great American dollar would soon have acquired the general worthlessness of the German mark, had the brake not been applied, is realized. It is the precipitancy of the action that is protested against, and this protest has generated the idea that existing financial agencies, as affecting the farmer, are inadequate. The protest has taken concrete form in the organization of the Iowa Farm Credit Corporation, which is attempting to raise a million dol-

lars with the object of financing farmers on the long-term system. Without entering into a discussion of the merits of this enterprise—and it has been vigorously criticised—the fact cannot be successfully disputed that the agricultural interest considers existing methods of financing the industry insufficient.

Considerable bad banking was indulged in during the boom. Some bankers actually encouraged investment in doubtful enterprises by discounting the paper, thereby permitting promoters to make a "get-away" with easy money. While this practice was not general, it has been damaging, as the local banker invariably assured himself that the maker of the discounted paper was solvent. Some banks have gone to the wall as a result of the financial orgy; others do not know exactly where they "are at" in a solvency sense; but the rank and file of Corn Belt financial concerns, although not engaged in throwing money to the little birds, are in healthy condition.

Naturally the farm organizations are encountering adversity. The leader in this sphere is the farm bureau, which acquired a membership running into the millions during the flush period. It still has millions on its rolls, but the deserters are also numbered by the million. The Farmers' Union of Nebraska and the farmers' clubs of Missouri are contesting the field with the farm bureau, and in many localities have made substantial headway, dispelling the illusion that it would be possible to weld the agricultural interest into "one big union." This is obviously impossible, owing to diversity of opinion as to agricultural needs—economic, financial, and otherwise—coupled with the inevitable surplus of leaders, if not leadership. The farm bureau will survive, but it will not monopolize the sphere of agricultural organization, nor will it submerge the efficient live-stock organizations west of the Missouri River, to which its leaders have imputed inefficiency. What is needed is co-operation between organizations having for their object the promotion of live stock and agriculture—not monopolistic effort. It would be as practicable to weld the various organizations of this character into one as to accomplish church unity, which will not be practicable as long as one man believes in incinerating his fellow-beings in the next world, while another regards the "fire and brimstone" process, in a literal sense, as a joke. Nature did not make us to suck out of the same quill or to vote the same ticket.

The farmer is still resentful of the fact that he was required to lead the liquidation procession. He is deriving a modicum of satisfaction from perusing the annual reports of packing, motor-car, and other manufacturing concerns for 1921, which indicate how drastic and expensive liquidation in their case has been; for misery does love company, and it must be admitted that we appreciate punishment administered to the other fellow after we have felt it ourselves. But the farmer wants to know when labor is to be liquidated—not farm labor, but union and railroad labor. He realizes that until manufacturing and transportation cost has been whittled down a normal condition cannot be reached. He is anxious to buy, but will purchase only bare necessities until a more equitable basis of changing farm products into manufactured goods has been reached.

Agriculture is producing. It is not affected by the outstanding evil of labor unionism, which is restriction of production. Much as we have heard of curtailed corn acreage this season, there will be none. Every possible bushel of grain will be raised, every possible pig matured, and there will be no effort to curtail beef production. In fact, everywhere I have been two topics are of paramount interest: the probable prices, and the available supply of stock cattle and live muttons on the feeder order. The farmer is producing, and will continue to produce. If organized labor adopted the same policy, everybody would benefit.

There is protest everywhere against the rising tide of taxation, especially local taxation. It has generated a demand for retrenchment, which is assuming such radical form as dispensing with county agents and road engineers. In fact, some of the extreme economizers would close the consolidated schools—temporarily at least. Taxation, in the aggregate, has reached a point, in many localities, where it equals farm rentals a decade back. So far as low taxes are concerned, "them days is gone forever," to use a popular term; but both the farmer and the country business man insist on immediate checking of the steadily rising tide of public expenditure.

There is plenty of corn everywhere, and, should another good crop be harvested, demand for stock cattle will be broad. Never before has the available supply of locally raised cattle in the Corn Belt, commonly known as "natives," been so small; consequently the major portion of next winter's feeding must come from the West, either direct from the range or through Missouri River gateways. The Corn Belt could not prosper without cattle, even though the hog may be its sheet-anchor in a financial sense.

THE MISTLETOE CASE

BY JAMES E. POOLE

J. OGDEN ARMOUR is one of our most interesting fellow-citizens. This fact is not generally realized, because so few have opportunity for contact with him. The monarch of Packingdom has the reputation of being a recluse. He might appropriately be termed the Hermit of Armouria—his magnificent, brick-walled estate north of Chicago. Not that he is without a circle of friends, but within that charmed circle none are admitted with even a suspicion of the promotion instinct. When it comes to promoting enterprise, Armour does his own. The late Morton Kimball, Milwaukee's hide specialist, was asked several years ago how he maintained his intimacy with Armour. "By studiously refraining from trying to interest him in anything of a commercial or financial nature," was his response.

Announcement that Armour would take the witness-stand at Kansas City in the noted Mistletoe Stock-Yard case naturally aroused interest. Rarely has the King of Slaughterers appeared in that capacity, and on such occasions the inherent modesty of the man has been conspicuous. Once in New York he was asked by examining counsel if he was not a wealthy man. "I feel reasonably rich in Chicago, but in New York I feel like a piker," was his response. On this occasion he assumed the same, almost self-deprecatory attitude. Asked by counsel if Armour killed more hogs than any other concern, he replied: "No, Swift kills the most." His attitude was democratic, even confidential, all through the ordeal on the witness-stand. He announced that packers were desirous of paying profitable prices for live stock, as ability to do so implied prosperity for all. Even the commission man responsible for the Mistletoe investigation was included. When the subject of price control came up, Armour derided the suggestion that it was possible.

The Mistletoe case is the first hearing under the Packers and Stock-Yards Act. The complaint was filed by the Kansas City Live Stock Exchange, a number of producers' organizations intervening. Over one hundred witnesses were examined, the record going subsequently to Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, who will make the primary decision, with assurance that either Armour or the live-stock exchange will take an appeal. Therefore it promises to become a celebrated case in live-stock annals.

Eliminating verbosity, the complaint alleges that Armour maintains a private yard at the Mistletoe plant in Kansas

City, wherein he determines hog values without giving the producer a voice in the transaction; that he derives a distinct advantage by having this private supply, as it enables him to withdraw his competition from the open market; that his private yard is closed to producers generally, his regular buyers having assigned territory, in which they endeavor to manipulate prices by excluding competition; and finally that, if successful in the case of hogs, this method of buying will be extended to cattle and sheep.

Armour, on the stand, denied any such intention, contending that the Mistletoe house is an isolated case, that prices paid in the Mistletoe yards are on a parity with open-market quotations, and that contributors to its supply are given a square deal. He admitted that the principle was uneconomic and that, theoretically at least, the producing public should have access to the Mistletoe market, although stating that this was impracticable. The Mistletoe yard, he said, came to Armour as a legacy through the distribution of the assets of the National Packing Company, its buying methods not having changed in twenty years.

During the past ten years Swift, Cudahy, and other packers have materially increased hog-buying at concentration points, so that the real issue is the practice of appraising hogs as carried on at these points. Secretary Wallace may find it legal under the provisions of the act; he may declare these concentration points open markets; or he may require sale consummation at the point of retrieve. Whatever the primary outcome of this hearing may be, packers will fight to the last ditch to retain their concentration points, so that the resultant litigation will prove a veritable melon for such legal talent as happens to be retained. It is the resolute manner in which the concentration point is defended that creates a suspicion in hog-producing circles that, to quote Colonel Sellers, "there's millions in it"—millions that do not find a resting-place in the producer's pocket, although Armour contends that the only sufferer is the commission man.

GRAIN-GROWERS OPEN SALES OFFICES

AS A SUBSIDIARY to the United States Grain Growers, Inc., a sales company has been formed which will immediately begin operations in Chicago, Kansas City, Indianapolis, Omaha, and Minneapolis. The volume of business assured through the contracts of more than 50,000 members makes this agency, it is said, the largest grain-selling organization in the world. It is estimated that more than 110,000,000 bushels have already been contracted, and the rapidly increasing membership adds several million bushels to this amount every week. The incorporation of this selling company sets up a distinct organization, with separate financial responsibility. The plan provides for the appointment of advisory boards from the farmers' elevators and local grain-dealers' associations in the territory tributary to the branch offices.

WORLD DAIRY CONGRESS TO BE HELD NEXT YEAR

AT A RECENT CONFERENCE between leading dairymen and the Secretary of Agriculture preliminary plans were decided upon for the holding of a world's dairy congress in this country some time during 1923, as authorized by an act of Congress. Date and place will be announced later. The congress is to be divided into four sections—industry and economics, regulation and control, national health and research, and education. The plans also call for discussion of subjects relating to readjustment problems in the dairy industry, study of dairy products, dairy cattle, and dairy machinery.

WHAT SHALL BE DONE WITH OUR ARID GRAZING LANDS?

THAT THE TIME HAS COME for the enactment of legislation which will more effectively meet the needs of the range country than any now on the statute-books, unless the grazing industry of that region is to retrograde, is the conclusion reached by E. O. Wooton, assistant agricultural economist in the Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics, in Bulletin No. 1001, issued by the Department of Agriculture under the title "The Relation of Land Tenure to the Use of the Arid Grazing Lands of the Southwestern States." In the opinion of the author, the importance of this problem, as it bears on the nation's meat supply, is not sufficiently appreciated. While the general public, especially in the eastern part of the country, has little knowledge of conditions obtaining in the arid sections of the West, and is on principle opposed to the concentration of large areas of land in private hands, western stockmen, who are those most vitally concerned, "have been slow to give vigorous expression of unified opinion as to what should be done."

From the "Conclusion" of Mr. Wooton we quote this paragraph, setting forth his main thesis:

"It cannot be gainsaid (1) that the arid grazing lands are today mostly overstocked and deteriorating under the present form of use; (2) that they are being operated at a low standard of productivity because of poor organization; and (3) that this form of use is brought about by our land laws. It hardly need be stated that this sort of use ought to be stopped and that it is high time we changed these land laws. Though improvement in organization of the range stock-raising business does not necessarily follow as a result of a change of methods of tenure, improvement is absolutely impossible under existing laws."

Suggested remedies for the present unsatisfactory condition are thus summarized:

"Extension of the homestead policy, by gradually increasing the area that may be homesteaded, has not solved the range problem, since that plan assumes the possibility of substituting some more complex type of agricultural use for the grazing industry that now occupies the land. Legislation which breaks up the use areas into holdings too small for economic use results in loss to all concerned, without establishing a more productive industry than that now using the land.

"Sale and exchange of restricted areas, while valuable as a means of consolidating use areas, are at best but expeditors of local application. The issuance of lieu land scrip for lands surrendered to the government is of still more restricted use, as a general policy.

"A leasing system, properly administered, has certain important advantages not possessed by any of the above-mentioned methods of disposal.

"A permit system, like that now in operation in the national forests (though not necessarily duplicating it), is probably the best system yet devised. Such a system would prevent the disruption of the existing industry, avoid the losses that result from enlarging the homestead area, recognize the equities of present users, giving proper adjustments of claims, protect and encourage the industry for which the region is adapted, set in motion a procedure that would automatically but gradually reduce the size of all excessively large holdings, and establish that individualized control of the lands under competent supervision which is so necessary for the further development of the live-stock industry on these arid grazing lands. Not the least of the advantages of the permit system lies in the fact that it does not necessarily interfere with nor replace the existing land laws, but makes easier the administration of these laws."

The pamphlet is an able and instructive presentation of the whole subject of stock-raising on arid range lands, treated from the points of view of historical development, natural conditions, and legislative needs. It should be read by every western stockman.

CONSOLIDATION OF NATIONAL-FOREST LANDS

A BILL, introduced by Senator Smoot, of Utah, providing for the exchange of lands within national forests, has recently been passed by Congress and signed by the President. In the past a number of exchanges have been authorized, involving both state and private lands. The new measure (Senate Bill No. 490) is designed to dispose of the many individual exchange bills which have annually been presented in Congress. Being general in its application, it is not so comprehensive as might be desirable in some cases, but it nevertheless meets a very wide need—the consolidation of private and government lands within the exterior boundaries of the national forests.

The law makes provision for the acceptance by the United States of title to any private lands within the exterior boundaries of national forests which are chiefly valuable for national-forest purposes, and for which either national-forest land or timber representing an equivalent value may be given the grantor. No provision is made for reservations of minerals, easements, or timber rights.

The act reads as follows:

"Be it enacted, etc., That, when the public interests will be benefited thereby, the Secretary of the Interior be, and hereby is, authorized in his discretion to accept on behalf of the United States title to any lands within the exterior boundaries of the national forests which, in the opinion of the Secretary of Agriculture, are chiefly valuable for national-forest purposes, and in exchange therefor may patent not to exceed an equal value of such national-forest land, in the same state, surveyed and non-mineral in character, or the Secretary of Agriculture may authorize the grantor to cut and remove an equal value of timber within the national forests of the same state, the values in each case to be determined by the Secretary of Agriculture: Provided, That before any such exchange is effected notice of the contemplated exchange reciting the lands involved shall be published once each week for four successive weeks in some newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties in which may be situated the lands to be accepted, and in some like newspaper published in any county in which may be situated any lands or timber to be given in such exchange. Timber given in such exchanges shall be cut and removed under the laws and regulations relating to the national forests, and under the direction and supervision and in accordance with the requirements of the Secretary of Agriculture. Lands conveyed to the United States under this act shall, upon acceptance of title, become parts of the national forest within whose exterior boundaries they are located."

PACKERS LOSE HEAVILY IN 1921

PACKERS' STATEMENTS for 1921 present a somber enough aspect. With the appearance of Wilson & Co.'s annual report all of the Big Five have now been heard from. Here is the record:

	Op. Loss	Deficit
Armour & Co.....	\$31,709,817	\$35,256,796
Swift & Co.....	7,812,291	19,812,291
Morris & Co.....	5,063,506	11,972,541
Wilson & Co.....	8,462,052	9,206,269
Cudahy Packing Co.....	1,569,563	1,569,563

Depreciation of inventories was responsible for the greater part of these enormous losses of an abnormally lean year—losses which would have bulked even larger were they not to be viewed against the background of the accumulated surplus of many fat years.

THE CALENDAR

April 19-21—Annual Convention of Montana Stock Growers' Association, Butte, Mont.
 May 24-25—Annual Convention of Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon, Enterprise, Ore.

THE PRODUCER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTEREST OF THE

LIVE STOCK INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES

BY THE

AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION
PUBLISHING COMPANY

515 COOPER BUILDING, DENVER, COLORADO

Officers and Directors

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LOUIS WARMING, Associate Editor
JAMES E. POOLE, Market EditorSubscription: One Year, \$1; Three Years, \$2.75; Six Years, \$5
Advertising Rates on Request

Volume III

APRIL, 1922

Number 11

GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

OVERSHADOWING all other events in the industrial field at this writing is the coal-miners' strike, which has closed 6,000 mines from Pennsylvania to Colorado and added 600,000 men to the country's army of unemployed. Under other circumstances such a development might well have proved a calamity of the first magnitude; but approaching summer and a vast surplus accumulation of fuel have had the effect of causing both industry and the general public to view the situation with an inspiring amount of unconcern. Everybody seems convinced that the strike will be neither of long duration nor of serious ultimate consequences.

In spite of labor troubles, such important industries as iron and steel, building operations, and automobiles are making a distinctly more favorable showing. Slow recovery is also reported in other manufacturing lines. Car-loadings continue to increase at interior points. Railway earnings, responsive to larger freight movements and economies in operation, are advancing, and more orders for new equipment are being placed. In New England the strike of mill-workers is dragging on, with resultant continuance of depression in textile lines. Both jobbing and retail trade is described as quiet to fair, but with a healthier undertone. There is a better outlook in hides. Dry-goods demand is broadening. A further downward movement in prices of footwear is indicated.

The value of our exports is steadily falling off, due to causes which we have previously enlarged upon. Unless some way of stabilizing foreign ex-

change can be speedily found, enabling Europe to buy our products, the date is not far distant when the balance of trade will turn against us. Some modicum of relief may conceivably result from the economic conference now in session at Genoa; but, with the chief purser declining to participate, it is safer not to expect too much.

Winter-grain prospects are more favorable than last month. Good rains have fallen in the Southwest. Better prices for farm produce generally have had a marked effect in improving the morale throughout the agricultural regions, where the feeling now is universal that the worst is behind us.

Stock and bond markets are firm. Liberty bonds have reached new high levels. Money is still tending to ease, rediscount rates both at western and southern federal-reserve banks having been reduced during the past month. Bank clearings are steadily mounting. Collections, however, are still characterized as slow.

Bradstreet's index number, based on wholesale prices per pound of thirty-one articles used for food, for the week ending April 1 was \$3.19, compared with \$3.21 for the week ending March 4, 1922, and \$3.06 for the week ending March 31, 1921.

THE TARIFF

THE TARIFF ACT, known as the "Fordney bill," was passed by the House of Representatives on July 21, 1921, and referred to the Committee on Finance of the Senate on the following day. Since then, at intermittent periods, that committee has been laboring with the various schedules, has held many hearings, and lately has been in almost continuous session on the measure. Owing to the delay in the committee's report, the life of the emergency tariff act, approved May 27, 1921, which was to have expired at the end of six months, was extended so as to continue its rates in effect until the general tariff bill became a law.

The Finance Committee of the Senate has now practically completed its report. Many changes have been made in the House bill. On live stock and its products the committee has definitely decided to report the following import duties:

On live cattle weighing over 1,050 pounds, 2 cents per pound.

On cattle weighing less than 1,050 pounds, 1½ cents per pound.

On sheep and goats, \$2 per head.

On swine, ¾ of a cent per pound.

On dressed beef and veal, 3½ cents per pound.

On dressed mutton, 2½ cents per pound.

On lamb, 5 cents per pound.

On hides, 15 per cent ad valorem.

On wool, 33 cents per pound on clean contents.

These rates all average higher than those contained in the Fordney bill and closely approximate the duties levied under the emergency act. In the July, 1921, issue of THE PRODUCER is printed a table showing the tariff duties on live stock and its products in previous bills, from which our readers can make a comparison.

In the Fordney bill hides are on the free list, and there is certain to be a contest between the Senate and the House conferees on this schedule. Friends of the hide duty on the floor of the Senate will attempt to increase the duty to 20 per cent, which will be more nearly in line with the general level of other import duties.

The wool schedule in the Fordney bill was complicated by restrictions as to maximum duties, which was thoroughly unsatisfactory and seriously reduced the real amount of protection given. This has been changed to a specific duty per pound on clean contents.

In the judgment of THE PRODUCER, stockmen should be satisfied with the action of the Senate Finance Committee, except possibly on hides, and should write their senators and representatives vigorously urging favorable action. The executive committee of every live-stock association throughout the West should immediately consider these duties to be recommended by the Senate committee, should adopt suitable resolutions indorsing them, and should promptly transmit these to their representatives in Washington.

The tariff "bloc," of which Senator Gooding, of Idaho, is chairman, has done an admirable piece of work on the agricultural and live-stock schedules. At last it seems that the farmers and stockmen are to receive something near the same measure of protection as has been so long accorded to other interests.

PROPOSED TRANSFER OF NATIONAL FORESTS

AT ITS CONVENTION in Colorado Springs the American National Live Stock Association put itself on record as protesting "most emphatically" against the proposed transfer of the Forest Service to the Department of the Interior. Similar action has been taken, with like emphasis, at meetings this winter and spring of other organizations of live-stock producers in the West. There can be little doubt that the sentiment among a great majority of those holding grazing privileges on national forests is strongly opposed to such transfer. It is felt that the administration of the forests, with their grass and timber resources, logically falls under the Department of Agriculture; that the policies pursued in the past by that department have, on the whole, been very satisfactory to those whose interests are most directly affected; and that a change now would, at best, inject

an element of uncertainty into the situation which it is deemed desirable to avoid.

However, to secure, in the interest of fairness and for the information of our readers, an authoritative and unbiased statement of the reasons underlying the agitation for the removal of this government bureau to another department, we have asked the Secretary of the Interior whether he cared to present his point of view through the columns of THE PRODUCER. Secretary Fall replies that he does not wish to submit a formal statement, but is willing to be quoted "as a matter of news."

The secretary expresses surprise at the opposition developed in the West to the proposed transfer, and intimates that it is due to misinformation. "Anyone who desires to inform himself," he says, "could easily ascertain, if he does not know, that there has never been any proposition considered looking to the overturn of the policy of the Forestry Bureau in the matter of grazing. With the maintenance of the same rules and regulations and administration, I cannot conceive why your association should consider that the Agricultural Department should have control over grazing on withdrawn public lands." In an inclosed copy of a letter written to a private citizen in New York on the same subject, Mr. Fall further states that the grazing on the national forests at present "is generally managed most excellently," and that his "sole purpose in even suggesting such transfer has been the proper co-ordination of the bureaus and the lessening of the conflicts which result from contact between the Forestry Bureau and the bureaus of the Interior Department." Among these latter bureaus he mentions the Reclamation Service, the Indian Service, and the National Park Service. "The Interior Department was created for the purpose of administering this great national estate," says the secretary. It is acting as—

the trustee for every other natural national resource of the people, in so far as lands, mines, etc., are concerned, and the Forestry Bureau, acting without control in the Department of Agriculture, is the trustee for a portion of the estate in those withdrawn national forests. . . . In the performance of their duties the two trustees conflict. There should be appointed one trustee for the whole estate. . . . Either the Forestry Bureau should be transferred here [to the Department of the Interior], or the authority of the Interior Department over the national estate should be transferred to the Agricultural Department.

If the government can exercise its trusteeship over the "national estate" more efficiently, economically, and with greater justice to all concerned through a unification of authority (and few will dispute the soundness of this principle), it may be that the stockmen of the West, from their experience with the policies and methods of the present administration of the forests, would prefer the latter of the alternatives suggested by Secretary Fall. At any rate, they will be glad to have his views.

NATIONAL LIVE STOCK AND MEAT BOARD

AT A MEETING in Chicago on March 10, as recorded elsewhere in this issue, the organization of the National Live Stock and Meat Board was perfected. After the detail of financing has been arranged, it will be a going concern. The machinery has been so wisely planned and so carefully adjusted that it should function without a hitch.

As will be recalled, the plan contemplates a levy of ten cents on each carload of live stock shipped to an established market, to be divided equally between seller and buyer, and to be collected through the commission firms. To make such a procedure practicable and strictly regular, it may be that some sort of formal authorization will be required. Not unnaturally the commission men might hesitate to impose this tax without the express consent of the taxed. It has been suggested that this matter be taken up by the officers of the producers' organizations represented on the board.

From another side the point has been raised whether, at the present juncture, it is advisable to place this whip in the hands of the commission firms. By giving them control of the headwaters of the financial stream, as it were, they have been put in a strategic position of which some of them, in a given situation, it is felt, might be tempted to take advantage. It has also been questioned if such a method of raising funds may not spur to emulation more promoters of other schemes than the system will conveniently bear. Obviously it may easily be stretched too far.

The personnel both of the board as a whole and of the executive committee should command much confidence. Each organization has chosen its representatives from among its best men. It is true that the majority of one possessed by producers on the committee, owing to the geographical distribution of its membership, may not always operate to throw the determining influence where the sponsors of the movement intended that it should lie, in that easier access to the central point at which meetings are likely to be held may give a temporary preponderance to other interests. But this danger, we feel sure, is only an imaginary one. If the board is to realize Mr. Burke's fine vision of "a clearing-house in co-operation for all the different branches of the live-stock industry, to deal with those problems where there is mutuality of interest," then it matters comparatively little who casts the vote ratifying agreements arrived at in open and friendly conference.

As to the primary objective of the National Live Stock and Meat Board—an increased consumption of meat—no definite program was formulated at Chicago. It was the belief of the packers' representatives that the initial attack should be directed against the unfair propaganda of other food interests.

In a concentrated drive along this line the Institute of American Meat Packers, with its staff of scientists and excellent laboratory equipment, is well prepared to take the lead. Whether the results from such a counter-offensive would be prompt and definite enough to give the kind of relief that producers are praying for is another problem. There is much to indicate that the present relatively low level of per capita meat consumption, and the puzzling fluctuations occurring from year to year, are due to causes which cannot be effectively reached by merely stressing the food value of animal proteins.

PER-CAPITA MEAT CONSUMPTION

FROM THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY has issued a new tabulation of per-capita consumption of federally inspected meats for the fifteen years 1907-1921, inclusive. Though we have previously dealt with this matter somewhat at length and from divers angles, and printed several sets of figures whose attractiveness was lessened not one whit by their mutual lack of agreement, the subject is so important and of such perennial interest to stockmen that we feel justified in reproducing the table:

Year	Beef	Veal	Mutton and Lamb	Goat	Pork	Lard	Total
1907	79.7	7.1	6.4	0.1	74.1	12.5	179.9
1908	72.4	6.8	6.2	0.1	85.4	14.3	185.2
1909	76.2	7.5	6.6	0.1	68.6	11.6	170.6
1910	78.1	7.4	6.5	0.2	60.3	10.5	163.0
1911	73.9	7.0	7.8	0.1	75.1	11.8	175.7
1912	67.5	7.0	8.2	0.2	70.6	11.4	164.9
1913	60.8	5.0	7.5	0.1	72.5	11.7	157.6
1914	58.9	4.4	7.5	0.2	69.9	12.1	153.0
1915	55.6	4.3	6.4	0.2	72.0	13.6	152.1
1916	58.1	5.3	6.2	0.2	75.7	15.1	160.6
1917	62.0	6.5	4.7	0.2	58.4	11.7	143.5
1918	64.7	7.6	4.7	0.1	69.8	14.1	161.0
1919	57.2	8.2	5.8	0.1	67.1	12.4	150.8
1920	61.1	8.9	5.0	0.1	68.9	13.1	157.1
1921	57.7	8.0	6.3	---	72.8	11.3	156.1

Various lines of speculation are suggested by this array of figures, but the primary reflection prompted by them is that there remain a few things yet to be found out relative to the factors determining meat consumption. The circumstance must always be borne in mind that we here deal with federally inspected meat only. For the volume of home and neighborhood killings, or of municipally regulated sales, there are no reliable data; hence no gauge exists for the relation between fluctuations in local slaughter and the ups and downs of meats bearing the government stamp.

What makes people one year prefer pork to beef, the next year reverse their choice, and in the third year return to pork? What caused total meat consumption in 1917 to slump by 17.1 pounds from the previous year, only to jump back to the extent of 17.5

pounds the next? If meatless days served the purpose for which they were intended, how does it come that in 1918 each person in the United States ate 17.5 pounds more meat than in 1917? In the above tabulation the meat sent abroad to feed the American Expeditionary Forces is included. Of this meat, which began to go to Europe in enormous quantities in 1917 and continued going all through 1918, pork products constituted the predominant part. Yet pork consumption in 1917 was the lowest of all the fifteen years under review, and even in 1918, when the shipments reached their maximum, less by 5.9 pounds than in 1916, and 3 pounds below that of the year of deflation and unemployment, 1921.

These, and many similar conundrums, cannot be satisfactorily solved by reference either to general economic conditions, changes in temperature, or the activity of food propagandists—any of these or all combined. That the average individual, in making up his menu, is more responsive to the vibrations of the nerve which connects his palate with his pocket-book than to any other single stimulus remains, however, our well-grounded conviction.

FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

A READER sends us a clipping from London *Truth* in which the British Ministry of Agriculture is criticised for its method of fighting the epidemic of foot-and-mouth disease now raging in England. In the writer's opinion, the necessity for such drastic and expensive measures as wholesale slaughter of affected cattle and contacts is doubtful. In support of this he cites the fact that in South America foot-and-mouth disease is practically endemic, "but is not looked upon as a plague which must be stamped out at all costs." He inclines to the belief that "the virgin soil created by the stamping-out process makes such epidemics, when they do break out, far more violent and destructive than they would be otherwise."

There can be no question that, by thus letting the disease run its course, a certain amount of tolerance to its virus will in time be developed. But is England, or are we in the United States, prepared to pay the price for such amelioration as may be gained through universal diffusion? It must be remembered that whatever trade in live animals exists in South America is between neighboring nations, and, since they are all in the same boat, they do not bother to close their frontiers against each other. With foot-and-mouth disease, however, once established as a permanent factor in countries with an important export trade in live stock, every foreign market would automatically be sealed. Today we are witnessing the anomaly of English cattle being denied entry at foreign ports, while England herself is maintaining

a blockade against store cattle from disease-free Canada.

The writer in *Truth* puts his faith in "direct methods of treating the disease," and mentions an Italian preparation which is said to have given excellent results. The same claim has been put forward for two or three French cures within the last year or so, of which nothing has been heard since their discovery was heralded—although half of Europe, France included, has been reeking with foot-and-mouth disease these many months. Last year it was announced that the British government had sent a man-of-war out to sea with a cargo of veterinarians and affected cattle for the purpose of studying foot-and-mouth disease under conditions of perfect isolation. What came of it has escaped us. An international foot-and-mouth congress was held at Buenos Aires in connection with the famous Palermo livestock show in 1921, as we remember it. If any resolutions indorsing new methods of preventing or combating the disease were passed, they have not as yet reached us.

Throughout the world scientists are busily at work searching for specific remedies. Some day, we hope, they will succeed. Until they do, we believe that the only safe course lies in eternal vigilance. Our authorities should, by every lawful and practicable means, guard against the introduction of the disease from abroad. If, in spite of all precautions, it should appear within our borders, it should be ruthlessly dealt with. As in the case of tuberculosis, temporizing methods are dangerous and false economy. The loss entailed by the destruction of even a hundred thousand head would be trifling compared with that resulting from a nation-wide epidemic, or a condition similar to that which prevails in South America, where the disease has permanently passed beyond human control.

FRANK D. TOMSON RETIRES

AFTER six years' service as publicity director for the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association and editor of that admirable quarterly, *The Shorthorn in America*, Frank D. Tomson, of Lincoln, Neb., has resigned, to devote his whole time to private interests. Few men in the United States have been so widely known in pure-bred circles as Mr. Tomson; none more favorably. His labors in the interests of the Shorthorn breed, and of improved live stock generally, have been valueless. As a writer and speaker he was eloquent, constructive, and indefatigable.

Hides that were 18 cents a foot in 1914 and 56 cents a foot in 1920 are now 17 cents a foot; but unfortunately the shoe men haven't heard of it, so buying shoes costs us just as much a foot as ever.—*American Lumberman*.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

WASHINGTON LETTER

BY W. A. ANDERSON

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 24, 1922.

THE FOUR-POWER TREATY in the Senate, and the adjusted compensation bill in the House, with the major appropriation bills sandwiched in between, have kept Congress well occupied during the month, while the Senate Finance Committee has been toiling with unceasing diligence to bring out the tariff bill, which is now promised for April 1 or shortly thereafter.

So many elements of uncertainty enter into the legislative program that it is impossible to forecast with any degree of accuracy the date that adjournment will finally come. Optimists still hope that the month of June will see the end of the session, but a member of the Senate Finance Committee made the prediction a few days ago that the dog days would see the Senate still struggling with the measure. The committee continues in executive session, and no official information as to the form that the measure will finally take is available. The impression is current in congressional circles that the bill as reported will be based upon foreign valuation, which will necessitate rewriting the schedules almost in their entirety.

The adjusted compensation bill passed the House on March 16, by a vote of 333 to 70, under a gag rule which prevented the amendment of the bill on the floor and limited the debate to four hours. The bill as passed eliminates the cash bonus where the amount due the veteran exceeds \$50, and offers instead an adjusted compensation certificate which runs for twenty years, with compound interest of 4½ per cent, plus 25 per cent of the amount due the veteran on the basis of \$1 a day for domestic service and \$1.25 for foreign service. The veteran would be able, under the provisions of the bill, to borrow from any bank 50 per cent of the loan value of his certificate up to October 1, 1925, when the certificates become eligible for a loan from the government. Other options of the bill are vocational training and home-building aid. Each of these options increases the amount due the veteran 40 per cent. The bill also carries a reclamation provision, which provides for the reclamation of waste and arid lands throughout the country and their settlement by former soldiers. This plan provides for the application of the compensation due the veteran as a payment on the land taken up, the remainder of the cost to the government to be amortized over a period of twenty-five years, at 5 per cent interest.

The bill in its present form was opposed by President Harding and the Secretary of the Treasury, because it carries no plan for raising revenue to meet its provisions. Members of both parties maintain that this objection is a valid one, and it is freely predicted that administration opposition will have the effect of keeping the measure slumbering in the Senate committee until the close of the session.

The bill making appropriations for the Department of

Agriculture for the fiscal year 1923 was received in the Senate on March 13, and was referred to the Committee on Appropriations, in accordance with a resolution, adopted by the Senate on March 6, amending the rules to cause all appropriation bills to be referred to that committee. The amended rule provides that three members of the committee to which the particular appropriation bill under consideration would have been referred under the old rule shall sit as ex-officio members of the Committee on Appropriations. It also provides for representation of these committees, when the appropriation bills are in conference, by the naming of one member as a conferee. Under the new rule, therefore, three members of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry will sit with the Committee on Appropriations during its deliberations on the agricultural appropriation bill.

The measure as it passed the House carries appropriations totaling \$35,692,233—an increase of \$714,200 over the total recommended by the House committee, but \$840,635 less than the amount estimated by the Budget Committee, and \$2,995,826 less than the \$38,688,059 appropriated for the year 1922, including deficiency appropriations totaling \$800,000.

The bill carries total appropriations for the Bureau of Animal Industry of \$6,669,276. The major items for this bureau include \$651,650 for salaries; for general inspection and quarantine work, \$529,640; for control of tuberculosis, \$2,578,800, of which \$850,000 is set aside for administrative and operating expenses, and \$1,728,800 for the payment of indemnities; for eradication of southern cattle ticks, \$660,000; for investigations and experiments in the dairy industry, \$375,000; for experiments and investigations in animal husbandry, \$284,320; for scientific investigations in diseases of animals, \$112,000; for investigation, control, and eradication of hog cholera, \$510,000; for meat inspection, \$891,180.

Appropriations for the Bureau of Plant Industry total \$3,287,610. The principal items include \$497,560 for salaries and \$2,790,050 for general expenses. Among items included under general expenses is \$82,000 for investigation of plant diseases and maintenance of a plant-disease survey, \$169,000 for investigation of subhumid, semi-arid, or dry-land agriculture, \$94,420 for investigations in connection with western irrigation agriculture, and \$360,000 for the congressional free seed distribution.

The total appropriations for the Forest Service are \$6,537,302. The major items include \$2,465,020 for salaries; for the use, maintenance, improvement, and general administration of national forests, \$2,485,362; for fighting and preventing forest fires, \$250,000; for experiments and investigation of range conditions, \$35,000; for appraising of timber resources, \$100,000; for construction of forest roads and trails, bridges, fire lanes, and other improvements, \$400,000.

Appropriations for the Weather Bureau total \$1,925,235; for the Bureau of Chemistry, \$1,267,631; for the Bureau of Soils, \$371,775; for the Bureau of Entomology, \$1,835,580;

for the Bureau of Biological Survey, \$870,565, which includes \$502,240 for the investigation of the food habits of North American birds and other animals, for experiments in connection with rearing fur-bearing animals, and for the destruction of predatory animals.

The bill carries for the States Relation Service \$4,285,000; for the Bureau of Public Roads, \$658,320; for the Bureau of Agricultural Economics (which includes the functions heretofore performed by the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates, and the Office of Farm Management and Farm Economics), general expenses, \$1,716,580; enforcement of the Cotton-Futures Act, \$175,000; enforcement of the Grain-Standards Act, \$536,223; administration of the United States Warehouse Act, \$120,000; enforcement of the Container Act, \$3,800. The bill appropriates \$410,500 for the enforcement of the Packers and Stock-Yards Act and \$103,600 for the Future-Trading Act.

There are six bills pending before Congress—three in the Senate and three in the House—which have for their purpose the extension of the functions of the War Finance Corporation. As yet no action has been taken on any of these bills. The corporation itself has not made any recommendations concerning the extension of its loan activities beyond July 1, 1922, which is the date fixed for cessation under the present law. Eugene Meyer, Jr., managing director of the corporation, is now on a tour of the West, making a study of prevailing financial conditions. It is expected that shortly after his return the attitude of the corporation on the question of extending its activities will be announced.

A subcommittee of the Committee of Banking and Currency of the Senate has held hearings during the month on Senate Bill 3051, introduced by Senator Lenroot, of Wisconsin, for the purpose of amending the Federal Farm Loan Act by establishing a farm-credits department in each federal land bank. This legislation was proposed by the Joint Commission on Agricultural Inquiry.

A bill providing for the consolidation of the collection of all foreign trade statistics in the Department of Commerce and the transfer of the Bureau of Customs Statistics from the Treasury Department to that department has been transmitted to Congress.

Hearings have been ordered for April 24 by the Interstate Commerce Commission on the plan for consolidation of railroads authorized under the Transportation Act. This plan, as set out in the November, 1921, issue of *THE PRODUCER*, contemplates merging the principal railroad lines of the United States into nineteen major systems. The southeastern group of roads will be the first to be dealt with.

The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce has been informed that the Argentine exchange has been controlled in such a manner that American traders in grains have been able to cause wheat to go up and down on the principal American exchanges. It is understood that a far-reaching investigation will be made by the Department of Commerce to ascertain whether or not there is any truth in the allegation.

On March 29 a conference was held before Chairman McCord, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, between the traffic officials of the carriers and representatives of the shippers, regarding the immediate suspension of the advance authorized in *Ex Parte 74* in the rates covering range cattle from the Southwest to northern pastures and ranges, similar to the action taken last year. The case for the shippers was presented by S. H. Cowan and T. W. Tomlinson, attorney and secretary, respectively, of the American National Live Stock Association; E. B. Spiller, secretary of the Texas and Southwestern Stock Growers' Association, Senator John B. Kendrick, and others. The carriers promised to have the mat-

ter definitely decided at a general meeting of all traffic officials of interested lines to be held in Chicago on April 5. The opinion of those attending the conference is that the concessions asked for will be granted.

ORDER BUYERS CITED TO JUSTIFY INCREASED CHARGES

ACTING UNDER THE AUTHORITY vested in him by the Packers and Stock-Yards Act, the Secretary of Agriculture last month issued a complaint against the membership of the Order Buyers' Association at the St. Louis National Stock-Yards, on the ground that an apparently unjustifiable advance had been made in the commission charge for buying hogs on all eastern markets. The complaint states that on February 3, 1922, the association adopted a schedule fixing such charge at \$10 a car, either double- or single-deck, and providing that all exchange on drafts must be paid by the purchaser. This amounts to an increase of 233 per cent on single-deck and of 100 per cent on double-deck cars, the old rate having been \$3 and \$5, respectively. The complaint requires the order buyers to show cause, if they can, why this increase should not be held unreasonable.

An order has likewise been issued by the secretary suspending a proposed increase of 20 cents a bushel (from \$1.10 to \$1.30) in the price of corn fed to live stock at the Indianapolis stock-yards, scheduled to go into effect March 20. A hearing has been set for April 17, when the reasonableness of the advance will be determined.

GRAZING ALLOWANCES FOR 1922

FROM THE FOREST SERVICE we have received the accompanying tabulation of stock authorized by the Secretary of Agriculture to graze on national-forest lands during the season of 1922. It will be noted that this represents a slight decrease from the number authorized for 1921. This is due to a reduction in the number of sheep and cattle on forests where the estimates were increased during the war period as a war measure. The revised figures, it is thought, more nearly represent the actual carrying capacity of the different forests than those of previous years. The only state in which the number of cattle and horses using the forests has been increased is Colorado, where improved range management has permitted such increase.

A new feature is the grazing of a small herd of reindeer in the Tongass National Forest, located in the southeastern portion of Alaska, where a permit has been granted to a resident of Alaska for that purpose on a small island, known as Yakobi, some distance north of Sitka. Inasmuch as the island is not occupied by domestic animals of any kind and but very few game animals, it was felt advisable to undertake this experiment with a view to settling the question as to whether or not a number of large islands lying along the coast of Alaska are suitable for the grazing of reindeer.

To meet the needs of the stockmen, the Secretary of Agriculture, as previously mentioned, has directed that the provision of the regulations requiring all grazing fees to be paid thirty days in advance of the opening of the grazing season be waived, so that fees need not be paid until the stock is actually ready to enter the forest. He has further agreed that payment of fees may be made in two parts: one-half when the stock enters the forest, the other half on or before December 1, 1922.

The allowances follow:

GRAZING ALLOWANCES
1922

Forest	Number of stock authorized				Yearlong rates (Cents)					Yearlong rates (Cents)						
	Cattle	Horses	Swine	Sheep	C.	H.	Sw.	S&G	Cattle	Horses	Swine	Sheep	C.	H.	Sw.	S&G
<u>District 1</u>																
Abesarka	- 7,750	..	+ 67,500	100	125	75	25		Targhee (5)	- 34,600	..	- 232,700	120	150	90	30
Beartooth (5)	- 5,065	..	- 38,600	100	125	75	25		Teton	+ 20,000	120	150	90	30
Beaverhead (5)	+ 28,275	..	- 99,200	100	125	75	25		Toiyabe (5)	- 17,200	..	- 23,600	100	125	75	25
Bitterroot	- 3,820	..	- 42,475	100	125	75	25		Uinta (5)	- 37,445	..	+ 195,650	120	150	90	30
Blackfeet	+ 1,600	..	+ 10,600	80	100	60	20		Wasatch (5)	- 11,735	..	+ 65,275	120	150	90	30
Cabinet	2,400	..	40,000	80	100	60	20		Weiser (5)	+ 13,000	..	- 56,800	120	150	90	30
Clearwater	250	..	- 41,250	80	100	60	20		Wyoming (5)	14,800	..	- 223,000	120	150	90	30
Coeur d'Alene	1,000	..	+ 16,000	80	100	60	20			- 502,750	1,100	- 2,998,165				
Custer (5c)	- 28,500	..	6,000	120	150	90	30									
(Sioux Division)																
Deerlodge (5)	- 18,790	100	125	75	25									
Flathead	1,275	..	4,600	80	100	60	20									
Gallatin	+ 7,064	..	+ 50,260	120	150	90	30									
Helena	- 17,160	..	53,700	100	125	75	25									
Jefferson (5)	+ 21,325	..	- 120,450	100	125	75	25									
Kaniksu	- 600	..	14,000	80	100	60	20									
Kootenai	3,650	..	35,200	80	100	60	20									
Lewis & Clark	- 8,600	..	40,000	100	125	75	25									
Lolo	- 850	..	- 35,000	80	100	60	20									
Madison (5)	- 26,200	..	- 131,400	120	150	90	30									
Missoula	8,955	..	+ 8,115	100	125	75	25									
Nezperce	- 9,635	..	- 64,600	120	150	90	30									
Pend Oreille	820	..	25,600	80	100	60	20									
Selway	- 2,600	..	- 27,500	80	100	60	20									
St. Joe	450	..	32,000	80	100	60	20									
	- 206,624		- 1,064,130													
<u>District 2</u>																
Arapaho (5)	13,100	..	28,400	100	125	75	25		Angoles (5c)	4,100	120	150	90	30
Battlement (5c)	+ 51,750	1,000	+ 15,000	100	125	75	25		California (5)	7,600	- 350	- 49,000	120	150	90	30
Bighorn (5)	+ 47,975	..	- 119,600	120	150	90	30		Cleveland (5)	1,800	..	- 3,600	120	150	90	30
Black Hills (5c)	- 30,000	..	- 6,700	100	125	75	25		Eldorado (5)	11,760	..	+ 29,460	140	175	105	35
Cochetopa (5)	+ 21,050	..	- 72,500	100	125	75	25		Inyo (5)	- 7,960	..	- 42,600	140	175	105	35
Colorado	+ 22,850	..	+ 12,150	100	125	75	25		Klamath (5)	9,750	- 700	- 15,500	100	125	75	25
Gunnison (5)	- 37,525	..	- 55,400	100	125	75	25		Lassen (5)	14,200	350	39,700	120	150	90	30
Harney (5c)	16,100	100	125	75	25		Modoc (5)	42,600	..	87,250	120	150	90	30
Hayden (5c)	+ 7,550	..	- 135,100	100	125	75	25		Mono (5)	- 6,310	..	+ 88,035	140	175	105	35
Holy Cross (5)	+ 27,755	..	- 93,185	100	125	75	25		Plumas (5)	+ 16,800	..	76,500	140	175	105	35
Leadville (5)	+ 14,000	..	+ 115,850	100	125	75	25		Santa Barbara (5)	- 10,700	300	15,500	120	150	90	30
Medicine Bow (5)	+ 11,850	..	55,900	100	125	75	25		Sequoia (5c)	+ 29,870	600	6,000	140	175	105	35
Michigan	1,250	..	3,800	100	125	75	25		Shasta (5)	- 10,100	400	- 34,000	120	150	90	30
Minnesota	2,000	100	125	75	25		Sierra (5)	18,175	1,500	35,300	140	175	105	35
Montesuma (5)	- 54,770	100	- 55,040	100	125	75	25		Stanislaus (5)	20,450	500	- 23,400	140	175	105	35
Nebraska	- 15,500	150	187	112.5	37.5		Tahoe (5)	- 9,100	..	- 50,300	140	175	105	35
Pike (5)	- 19,300	..	+ 27,800	100	125	75	25		Trinity (5)	13,000	600	- 24,600	100	125	75	25
Rio Grande (5)	+ 24,300	..	- 265,600	100	125	75	25			- 234,275	- 5,300	- 613,745				
Routt (5c)	50,800	..	88,520	100	125	75	25									
San Isabel (5)	+ 16,260	..	21,800	100	125	75	25									
San Juan (5)	+ 27,510	2,000	- 191,150	100	125	75	25									
Shoshone (5)	+ 15,660	..	- 77,300	100	125	75	25									
Uncompahgre (5)	- 52,445	..	- 55,600	100	125	75	25									
Washakie (5)	+ 14,450	..	- 50,700	100	125	75	25									
White River (5)	- 43,300	..	42,560	100	125	75	25									
	- 576,030	5,100	- 1,589,145													
<u>District 3</u>																
Apache (5)	+ 43,200	180	- 37,800	100	125	75	25									
Carson (5c)	+ 14,450	..	- 154,100	100	125	75	25									
Coconino (5)	47,900	100	- 81,857	100	125	75	25									
Coronado (5c)	- 47,000	200	- 2,500	100	125	75	25									
Crook (5c)	- 35,220	- 95	- 4,250	100	125	75	25									
Datil (5)	- 54,500	225	- 120,000	100	125	75	25									
Gila (5)	- 51,900	475	- 10,200	100	125	75	25									
Lincoln (5)	- 30,000	480	+ 18,475	100	125	75	25									
Menzano (5)	- 11,500	..	63,000	100	125	75	25									
Prescott (5)	- 55,890	450	- 62,625	100	125	75	25									
Santa Fe (5)	+ 16,094	- 100	- 97,825	100	125	75	25									
Sitgreaves (5c)	- 8,050	400	- 48,000	100	125	75	25									
Tonto (5c)	- 65,300	600	- 100	100	125	75	25									
Tusayan (5)	- 25,050	175	- 72,500	100	125	75	25									
	- 505,054	- 3,450	- 775,252													
<u>District 4</u>																
Ashley (5)	10,900	..	98,200	100	125	75	25									
Boise (5)	6,300	..	152,000	120	150	90	30									
Brider (5)	- 24,150	..	65,000	120	150	90	30									
Cache (5)	+ 27,500	..	- 113,400	120	150	90	30									
Caribou (5)	- 21,900	..	- 280,000	120	150	90	30									
Challis (5)	8,500	..	- 80,000	100	125	75	25									
Dixie-Sevier (5)	+ 16,400	400	- 76,500	100	125	75	25									
Fillmore (5c)	- 18,250	500	28,600	120	150	90	30									

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE

THE PRODUCER invites the stockmen of the country to take advantage of its columns to present their views on problems of the day as they affect their industry. It solicits correspondence on topics of common concern, such as stock, crop, and weather conditions, doings of state and local organizations, records of transactions of more than individual interest. Make it your medium of exchange for live-stock information between the different sections of the stock-raising region. Address all communications to THE PRODUCER, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colorado.

AUCTION SALES SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED

MARFA, TEX., March 30, 1922.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Selling cattle at auction has grown in favor during the past several years, and doubtless will continue to do so. It is hard to conceive of a more economical, satisfactory, or practical method of disposing of cattle shipped to central stock-yards than to sell them at auction in car lots to the highest bidder, whether he be packer, feeder, or speculator.

Auction sales, applied to all kinds of live stock, would go a long way toward settling existing differences between packers, commission men, and co-operative commission concerns, and would afford no unfair advantage to either buyer or seller that is not possible under the system now in use by commission agencies.

The auction plan would eliminate more middlemen and "stale cattle," and bring breeder and feeder in closer relationship, opening an easy way to future business. It would not bar the speculator, but would force him to buy in open competition with other bidders, and in this way remove all causes for complaint from this source.

The auction method would prove a great saving. One auctioneer could stand on the fence and sell as many cattle as a dozen mounted salesmen.

The auction method is not new—it is not an experiment. For years breeders of registered herds have held auction sales, which have proved satisfactory to both seller and purchaser, and are steadily growing in popularity. The auction sale of feeder cattle has become an annual event at the Denver stock show. The Highland Hereford Association of Marfa, Tex., sold last fall at auction 10,000 head of calves and yearlings that went direct to the Corn Belt feeders, with satisfactory results to both feeder and breeder. The writer as far back as 1906 shipped 1,400 steers to Galesburg, Ill., which were disposed of at auction in car lots. In January of this year, at the Wichita, Kan., stock show, 1,000 head or more of feeder cattle were auctioned within one hour, without any special preparation or exertion on the part of the auctioneer or his attendants.

The fact is generally recognized that the prevailing cattle-marketing system is very imperfect and affords room for much improvement. We are in a rut, and it is hard to get out. It

is human nature to look with disfavor on any proposed reform; still it might be well for commission men and co-operative commission concerns to view from every angle the auction-sales proposition at the central yards.

Moses sent twelve men to spy out the land of Canaan, with a view to conquest. On their return, as is usually the result, they turned in both majority and minority reports. Ten of the number said "We can't," but two said "We can"—and they did. In order to get out of the present rut, we need Joshuas and Caleb.

To make the auction method altogether satisfactory, sales should be limited to one carload or less at a time. This plan would afford the small operator an equal opportunity with the big operator and would be fair to all concerned.

The shipper should have the right to choose his own auctioneer, which method would create keen competition between followers of that profession, insuring good service.

The auction method is not offered as a panacea for all the ills and defects that our market system is heir to, but would doubtless be a long stride toward regulating the operation of the big central stock-yards and market places.

L. C. BRITE.

PRODUCERS SHOULD SUPPORT CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING PLAN

EADS, COLO., March 15, 1922.

TO THE PRODUCER:

As a member of the Colorado Stock Growers' Association for several years, I have been under the impression that I belonged to an organization of producers. It was, therefore, a great shock to me when that association, at its annual meeting in January, passed a resolution condemning the co-operative marketing plan as worked out by the Committee of Fifteen, on the ground that it would put all the live-stock commission firms out of business! Is the Colorado association controlled by the commission men and yard traders, and conducted solely for their benefit?

I fail to see any good reason why the producers and shippers of live stock should be under obligation to see to it that the armies of commission men and traders at all the public stock-yards in this country be protected and given special preferences. Personally I have the highest regard for the live-stock commission men. For many years, as a shipper, I have been doing business with a large number of them, and I have always found them straight, honest, and shrewd business men. But the trouble is that there are altogether too many of them, so that they have become a burdensome tax upon the producers. Besides, they are so completely organized that, in my opinion, the live-stock exchange is as much of a trust as the packers ever were. It is a well-known fact that it is next to impossible for an independent commission firm to exist at any of our principal markets, because all the members of the exchange, and even the yard traders and speculators, will boycott such a firm.

All stockers and feeders shipped to the yards have to pass through the hands of a speculator, so that, when they go back to the country, they have to bear two commissions and a speculator's profit. Very rarely will a commission man sell direct to a country buyer. In more than one case has a commission firm sold my stuff in the morning to a speculator, and in the afternoon, after it had been getting a fill, bought it back at an advanced price to fill an order from a customer.

There never was a farmers' organization so perfect that it attracted everybody; but let us give the co-operative marketing plan of the Committee of Fifteen a fair trial—and the quicker the better, for we need any improvement we can get. That committee was appointed by representatives of agricultural producers, and I am sure those men were working in sincere good faith to create something that would benefit the nation as a whole. If their plan fails, it will be due to lack of support on the part of producers and shippers. We have had co-operative shipping associations for a long time, and more of them are being created every year, which is good evidence that they are a success in most cases. If all those different farm and marketing associations could be brought together under one head, as planned by the committee, there is no question in my mind but that many millions of dollars would be saved annually for both producers and consumers.

C. J. OSWALD.

COMMISSION MEN PURSUING A SHORT-SIGHTED POLICY

POCATELLO, I.DA., March 10, 1922.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Reading the editorial in your February number under the caption, "Are the Commission Men Standing in Their Own Light?" I note these remarks:

"Why should the fee for services rendered the stockman continue at the war-time peak while he himself is plodding in the valley of deflation and ruin? Even if these charges, through the influence of such men as Mr. Brown, are brought down to anywhere near a reasonable level, it will not be easy to re-establish harmonious relations as long as the stockman feels that what he considers a necessary and just measure of protection is being fought to the last ditch by those who live off his trade. Such opposition, it should be realized, cannot but furnish a powerful stimulus to the co-operative movement."

Here you have in a concise way directed attention to a problem of great importance to the live-stock producer. As a producer having sheep, cattle, and hogs to market each year, and as a man having had forty years' experience on the different markets as a trader, consignor, and commission man, I came to the conclusion a number of years ago that the producers' problem of marketing their live stock must be solved by themselves. No matter how well-intentioned Mr. Brown may be, it is beyond his power to bring commissions down to a reasonable level as long as he is identified with the live-stock exchanges. There is no legal nor just way in which the exchanges could eliminate two-thirds of the firms now doing business.

At the convention of the National Wool Growers' Association held at Salt Lake in January, Kay Wood, representing the Chicago Live Stock Exchange and in a measure representing all live-stock exchanges, admitted that there were two-thirds too many commission houses and that one-third could handle the business in a more economical way than it was being handled at present. This is the meat in the nutshell. It is up to the producers, through concentrating the business, to bring about a more economical way of marketing their live stock, and, through concentration of their shipments, to make possible a better method of distribution.

Your logic is good, that the fight being put up by the commission merchants against the co-operative movement will rebound to their own injury. There can be no question about it.

A. J. KNOLLIN.

S. O. S.

ASHLAND, MONT., March 14, 1922.

TO THE PRODUCER:

A communication issuing from our Secretary of Agriculture at Washington, and being circulated in our Montana papers, at a time when stockmen of the Custer Forest Reserve are bending every effort toward tiding their cattle through the hardships of a rigorous winter, which succeeded one of the most destructive summers in the history of our state, is of peculiar interest to the people of this section. This communication concerns the advisability of remitting grazing fees of western stockmen, resident on forest reserves, who have suffered extensively from the past drought.

Secretary Wallace says on this point that the government derives \$2,500,000 annually from grazing fees, that not more than 25 per cent of the stockmen of the West use the forests as ranges, and that to waive the payment of these fees would mean that the government would discriminate in favor of 25 per cent of the stockmen and leave the other 75 per cent without any assistance whatsoever. His idea is that, if the government extends aid to any, it should extend it to all. As a parting shot, he adds that, since only a small percentage of stockmen use the forest, upon their inability to pay, and consequent relinquishment of rights, other stockmen, better able to pay, will replace the old-timers, and the government will receive its just dues. The proverbial worm will turn, and it is now high time that we, the residents of the Custer Forest Reserve, present our view of the situation.

Did not our government discriminate when it set aside this forest, forcing a percentage of western people to part with liberties and privileges, without adequate compensation therefor, in order that future generations might have an abundance of timber? In pursuance of that policy of conservation, why not conserve soil, coal, and minerals for future generations in the same way, by making reservations of certain sections and taxing the people resident thereon for the privilege of growing potatoes on soil adjacent to mineral formation? Was not special privilege granted to some—namely, non-residents of the forest—when they were allowed to acquire 640 acres as a homestead, while we, the poor occupants of a forest, were allowed only 160 acres? What non-residents invest in land for pastures remains in their hands as capital; what we invest in special-use permits is simply expense, with mighty little temporary benefit and no permanent value.

Why did we ask the remission of this fee in 1921? Simply because the majority of us were unable to meet the obligation. Was this inability to pay due to the carelessness or improvidence of the stockmen? No; a ride on the open range of the reserve last fall, and a glance at the devastated fields, would reveal the fact that man is powerless over drought and grasshoppers.

Our Secretary of Agriculture comes forth with the consolation(?) that, since we are unable to pay, other stockmen, better able to pay, will gladly take our places and dig up the necessary fees. This spells exile to us. We are dependent on live stock for a living. If we cannot pursue this industry here, we shall have to dispose of our holdings and move elsewhere. A sale of land or stock, under present financial conditions, means sacrifice; and we have sacrificed sufficient as it is.

The next question is: Who will restock the range which we are forced to relinquish? Other stockmen, to be sure; but

the venture will be financed by eastern capitalists, who had no part in the development of this country. In other words, the pioneers of this section, who blazed the trail, endured the hardships, and developed the country, must surrender their rights to others who played no part in the winning of the West. We are charitable enough to add a word of warning to these proposed newcomers—namely: If men who have resided here for thirty or forty years can make no profits out of the cattle industry under existing conditions, the newcomer had better beware. The cattle game, as it is played in Montana, is no game for a novice.

The amount we expend annually for grazing fees should at least afford us protection. We hear the efficiency of our forest administration loudly extolled. We are in no position to vouch for any efficiency, except efficiency in the matter of collection. We have what is termed a co-operative telephone. Last year we paid \$15 for the use of this, with the understanding that the line would be connected with Miles City in the course of a short time. A year or more has elapsed, and we have no communication established with that city; and yet \$30 has been collected from each person who possesses a telephone on the forest line. Breaks on the line have been allowed to interfere with the service, and many times these have had to be mended by some public-spirited resident of the community.

The forest is overrun with non-permitted stock. We have in mind a certain permittee who was compelled to carry water for household purposes over a considerable distance last fall, because a herd of non-permitted animals made free use of his water-tank, which had to be made accessible to his own stock, whose range was the same as that of the non-permitted animals. This was in no isolated section either, but along the main thoroughfare, over which forest officials must ride in pursuance of their duties.

Another resident of this reserve made application for a permit for house logs, and the time that elapsed between the application and the marking of the logs was very close to a year. Imagine a family patiently waiting in a tent, and the joy with which they would greet the forester who had at last arrived to mark logs needed in the construction of their home! Is this efficiency? These are but a few of many such instances. You permittees who read this can supplement them with many of your own experiences.

If our mails can be inspected and the employees of the postal system forced to serve the people in a competent manner, so also can our forests be inspected and forest employees be made to serve the residents of this reserve in a more businesslike way.

We have been told from time to time that no funds are available for improvements on the forest; yet the stations, in some manner, receive apportionments for modern buildings, hydraulic rams, etc., that are certainly paid for by someone. Who pays for all this? We, the people of the reserve.

A \$3 grazing fee is being agitated in certain circles, and it is very apt to be submitted to Congress in the near future. Our reserve is said to be self-supporting; why, then, the need for the proposed increase? Some of this surplus will in all probability revert to officials in the form of higher salaries. May we expect co-operation from the officials in the matter of fighting this advance? Not if human nature asserts itself, as it usually does.

This reserve was intended to be a forest reserve. That assertion has long since passed the joke stage and is too obsolete to be amusing. A careful review of the timber sales on it during the World War—a time when the lumbering industry was at its height—would enlighten one as to the merits of the forests thereon. Since it has little value as a forest, we hear

that it is, perhaps, a grazing reserve, and we have officials trained in forestry and lumbering dictating revolutionary ideas concerning live stock to men who have grown up in a western stock country. These men, our forest officials, bear in mind, have more control over the sources from which we derive our livelihood than our county or state officials, and we have absolutely no voice in their selection.

As an example of the contemplated rulings conceived by a lumber expert as a necessary measure for a stock country, we shall cite the one concerning the compulsory distribution of salt on the range, at the stockman's expense. So we must salt the non-permitted stock, as well as pay for their feeding! Truly the way of the transgressor is made soft instead of hard! Experience proves that stockmen, as a rule, provide sufficient salt for the general welfare of their stock. Imagine a salt-trough, in some of these sections, on divides far distant from water! Cattle in this country suffer more from lack of water for several months in the year than they do from lack of salt. Who knows but that the next call will be for individual fly-nets for every head of stock on the reserve? Some of the suggestions and proposed rulings are just as nonsensical.

Can we not have concerted action on these matters? True, we have organizations, but the absence of a real leader interferes sadly with their ability to cope with the situation. Our experience last fall proved the need for competent legal help. The average cattleman and farmer is not an adept at statistics or conversant with the finer points of law; but he has a keen sense of justice and knows what constitutes a square deal. On the other hand, our administration has access to figures, and time in which to prepare and round out arguments, which we have not.

At meetings we are deluged with technical conversations which to us have no bearing whatsoever on the wrong we are so anxious to have righted. Let us then, since they show no desire to meet us on our ground, secure someone who can meet them on theirs. In a word, let us hire competent legal counsel and attack these grievances in the proper manner!

HOME CREEK STOCK ASSOCIATION.

THINGS LOOK BETTER IN OREGON

NORTH PORTLAND, ORE., March 20, 1922.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Considering conditions elsewhere and the present cost of feed, stockmen in this section have had a very good market for both cattle and sheep throughout the fall and winter months. Some, as usual, fed their own feed, while others were able to buy feeders and hay at prices which permitted them to make a fair profit.

Stockmen generally are feeling rather encouraged. With prices continuing even on the present level, and with feed and labor getting back to the pre-war basis, they think they can begin to see a ray of light. All seem agreed that what we need most at present is for money matters to ease up, so that one can get longer loans and at more reasonable interest rates. This would enable those who were compelled to reduce their herds, or to quit the business entirely, to restock their ranges.

The market has been getting a little stronger all winter—about in proportion to the cost of feeding for the longer period. Generally speaking, the cattle have been of very good quality for this part of the country—a little better, I think, than in seasons when feed was so high.

GERRY SNOW.

Taxes wouldn't seem so high if the taxpayer felt he was getting something for his money.—*Kansas City Star*.

EASTERN OREGON HAS LONG WINTER

BAKER, ORE., March 16, 1922.

TO THE PRODUCER:

We have had an unusually long winter in eastern Oregon. The ground has not been bare since the early part of December. More than half of the 1920 hay crop was carried over. That and all of the 1921 crop are now practically consumed. I do not think, however, that there will be any loss on account of feed shortage, as the winter finally appears to have broken.

The cattlemen of the Northwest who went into the deflation period owing 40 to 50 per cent of their investment are, of course, "broke." Several of them have either sold out or been forced out of business. Few stock cattle have been sold recently, and there appears to be no established price. In fact, these transactions usually take place about the time that the cattle are turned on the range.

Some of the 1922 clip of wool was contracted a few weeks ago at thirty cents per pound, but there are no buyers in the field at present. The sheepmen have had very cold weather during the lambing season, but no heavy losses have been reported.

S. O. CORRELL,

Secretary, Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon.

TAX VALUATIONS HIGH IN NEW MEXICO

MAGDALENA, N. M., March 10, 1922.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Cattlemen in New Mexico have been hard hit, and are scarcely able to make it go at all. We are taxed on a valuation of \$33 for cattle that would not bring \$20 on the market. At the same time, there has been but little downward trend in living expenses. No offers above \$20 have yet been received for yearling steers, but I hardly think that we shall have to turn them loose at that figure.

L. V. MEDLEY.

SEVERE WEATHER IN MONTANA

HELENA, MONT., March 17, 1922.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Montana has passed through the hardest winter we have had for years. Thanks to the big hay surplus, the losses have not averaged much above normal, and, if we have seen the end of cold weather, we shall pull through in fair shape. The feed supply is getting low, however, and another protracted cold spell might prove serious enough.

E. A. PHILLIPS,

Secretary, Montana Stock Growers' Association.

TICK ERADICATION IN SOUTH

SINCE 1906, when the work of tick eradication began in the South, the Department of Agriculture has spent approximately \$5,900,000 for that purpose, the states about \$2,400,000, and the counties about \$10,700,000. Until the close of 1921, 523,837 square miles of territory had been freed from quarantine.

Concrete evidence of the benefits of tick eradication is to be found in all parts of the once ticky area where dairy and beef cattle are grown. Large numbers of cattle of both types have been imported into this region from other tick-free states to improve the native stock. When the tick was still rampant it was practically useless to bring in new blood.

THE MARKETS

LIVE-STOCK MARKET IN MARCH

BY JAMES E. POOLE

MARCH LIVE-STOCK MARKET CONDITIONS favored the buyer, especially in the case of cattle and hogs. Cattle declined 50 to 75 cents per cwt., and the hog market retrograded to the extent of a dollar. Lambs held their own, or did somewhat better than late in February, while values of matured sheep advanced to the highest levels of the year.

Cattle Receipts Normal

Supply figures are of interest, showing that cattle receipts have been well maintained, while the advertised deficiency in hogs and live muttons has developed. During the first three months of 1922 the seven principal markets of the United States received 2,172,000 cattle, 6,175,000 hogs, and 2,382,000 sheep, compared with 2,126,000 cattle, 6,749,000 hogs, and 2,817,000 sheep during the same period of 1921. At twenty markets, embracing practically all the important minor points, the three-month run was 2,851,000 cattle, 8,620,000 hogs, and 3,264,000 sheep, compared with 2,756,000 cattle, 9,506,000 hogs, and 3,709,000 sheep last year. Beef tonnage has, however, been smaller than supply figures indicate, as cattle reached market deficient in weight, a considerable proportion of the winter-fed crop having been sent to the butcher in little better than good feeder condition.

Early April found a few prime cattle selling at \$9, or better, on the Chicago market; but that quotation was not in use elsewhere, a range of \$7 to \$8.50 per cwt. taking the big end of the steer crop. Exporters paid up to \$9 for a few prime cattle at the crest of the rise, but had their peg in the \$8 hole at the end of March, when \$7.75 to \$7.85 were popular prices with them. The grade of steers hit hardest by the bump was the kind inviting feeder competition early in March. When feeders became sated, leaving the arena, killers dictated terms.

Scarcity of Heavy-Weight Beeves

Heavy cattle have been scarce right along, in striking contrast to the glut of a year ago, enabling them to claim top prices, the 1,400- to 1,600-pound class selling at \$9 to \$9.35. The market could, however, easily be congested with this grade, while there is no limit to its capacity to absorb prime yearlings selling at the same parity, suggesting a good market for fat little cattle right along. Cows and heifers have been out of line with steers and relatively high, owing to scarcity and the fact that a certain class of butchers refuse to handle anything but female product. Light heifers have sold as high as \$9.40, and any kind of a decent heifer is worth \$8, good cows earning \$7 to \$7.25. These prices, of course, are on specialties, \$5 to \$6.65 buying most of the cows that go into the beef supply.

A comparison of fat-steer prices April 1, this and recent years, follows:

	Top	Bulk
1922	\$ 9.30	\$ 7.00- 8.50
1921	10.10	8.00- 9.50
1920	14.25	11.50-13.50
1919	20.35	14.50-18.00
1918	15.50	12.90-14.60
1917	13.15	10.25-12.25
1916	10.00	8.50- 9.10

Hogs Show Dollar Decline

Hogs declined about \$1 per cwt. from the high spot early in March before the break was checked. This caused no surprise, as the hog market was known to be top-heavy and seriously out of line with lard and cured meats. When the slump was checked, top hogs were worth \$10.50 per cwt. in Chicago, and it was a \$10 to \$10.25 market so far as the bulk of the good hogs of all weights were concerned. April 1 average cost and top at Chicago, compared with the same period in recent years, follow:

	Top	Average
1922	\$10.50	\$10.15
1921	10.15	9.25
1920	16.15	15.40
1919	20.20	20.03
1918	17.85	17.45
1917	16.00	15.77
1916	9.85	9.69
1915	7.20	7.05

Lambs Unsteady but Advancing

The March lamb market was peculiarly sensitive to supply, developing wider fluctuations than during February, but late in the month the trend was upward, mature sheep recording the best prices of the year. Choice lambs reached \$16.30 in the fleece and \$13.75 shorn. Late in the month choice lambs were worth \$16.10, wooled yearlings \$14.75, wooled wethers \$12.50, and wooled ewes \$10.50. Winter-shorn lambs sold up to \$14, Colorado-fed shorn wethers to \$10.25, and choice light shorn ewes to \$10. Had supply been even slightly heavier, these prices would have been impossible. A comparison of sheep and lamb prices April 1 with the corresponding period in recent years follows:

SHEEP

	Top	Bulk
1922	\$11.25	\$ 8.50-10.00
1921	7.15	5.50- 6.85
1920	13.50	12.50-13.25
1919	17.25	13.50-16.00
1918	17.00	13.75-16.50
1917	13.00	11.50-12.65
1916	9.25	7.25- 8.85

LAMBS

	Top	Bulk
1922	\$16.10	\$12.75-15.75
1921	10.50	9.00-10.25
1920	20.50	17.25-20.00
1919	20.50	17.50-20.25
1918	21.00	17.00-20.50
1917	15.50	12.00-15.25
1916	11.50	9.25-11.25

REACTION IN STOCKER TRADE

J. E. P.

STOCK-CATTLE TRADE had a relapse late in March, in sympathy with the fat market. At the crest of the rise feeders paid as high as \$8.35 for fleshy steers fit for a quick turn on corn, but the slump in fat steers emphasized the danger dormant in this traffic. It put a quietus on purchasing near-beef, the country resuming purchasing of light stockers at a range of \$6.50 to \$7 mainly. A few fleshy feeders went out early in April at \$7.50 to \$7.85, but the danger-signal was generally heeded. The whole Corn Belt, as also the country east of Chicago, needs stock cattle, but is reluctant to buy at current prices and cherishes a hope that before long the freight bill will be reduced.

West of the Missouri River the market is firm. Texas has had rain, stiffening holders' backbones, and considerable trading has been done during the Fort Worth meeting and sub-

sequently, both on Kansas grass and northwestern account. Kansas and Oklahoma grass will be fully stocked, and there will be a movement of respectable volume to the Northwest, including Nebraska. The real pinch will come next fall, should the Corn Belt crib another big corn crop.

THE DENVER MARKET

BY W. N. FULTON

DENVER WAS ONE of the few markets of the country to show an increase in receipts of all classes of live stock for the month of March just past, as compared with March, 1921. This market received a very substantial gain in patronage in every department, and likewise shows a material increase for January, February, and March of this year as compared with the same period in 1921.

Cattle receipts for the month of March totaled 39,777 head, as compared with 25,540 in March, 1921. For the three months ended March 31, 1922, receipts of cattle showed an increase, as compared with the first three months of 1921, of 29,392 head.

A healthy trade was reported during the entire month. California buyers took large supplies from this market during the month, and their participation furnished a healthy competition, which afforded highly gratifying returns to shippers. On March 1 good fat steers were selling at \$6.50 to \$7.65. At the close much the same prices were prevailing. Good cows that sold at \$5.75 to \$6.25 early in the month were selling at from \$5.50 to \$6 at the close, while choice heifers selling at \$7.25 at the end of the month were just about steady with March 1. Feeding and stock cattle were going back to the country at \$6 to \$7 on March 1, and the same grades were bringing very much the same prices at the end of the thirty-day period.

Hog trade was active during the month, but prices declined sharply. Despite the drop, however, hogs are bringing their finishers good returns for the labor and feed invested in finishing them, and ranchers are not complaining. Receipts of hogs on the Denver market during March were 40,056 head, as compared with 35,318 head in March, 1921. For the first three months of the year receipts of hogs were 18,431 head larger than for the same period of 1921.

Good handy-weight hogs were selling on March 1 at \$11, but frequent declines during the month reduced the price level to \$9.85 for the same grades at the close of the month. Strong demand for good stock pigs prevails on the market, and prices have been well maintained. Good stockers are going back to the country at \$8.50 to \$9. The supply, however, is limited, as growers evidently prefer to hold their pigs and finish them for the market themselves.

Sheep receipts were larger by approximately 17,000 head in March this year than last. The offerings here totaled 155,110 head, as compared with 138,720 in March last year. The three months' supply thus far this year shows an increase, as compared with the first three months of last year, of 98,173 head. Good fat lambs were selling early in the month of March at \$14.50. The market strengthened as the month advanced, until at the close good lambs were bringing \$15 to \$15.10. Ewes also made a substantial gain in price during the thirty days. Eight dollars per hundredweight was the prevailing price for good light ewes at the beginning of March. At the close the same grades were selling for from \$9.25 to \$9.50. The March lamb market proved conclusively that shippers hold the whip hand in the matter of prices. Curtailment of supply quickly follows any depression in the price, with the result of a rapid return of the market to the previous high levels. Obviously a shortage of sheep and lambs exists in feed-lots

all over the country, and those who have stock left in their pens may be reasonably sure of receiving satisfactory prices right through to the end of the season.

HOG BOOM EXHAUSTING ITSELF

J. E. P.

LONG IN MARCH the hog market got top-heavy. In fact, it had been in that condition since average cost at Chicago crossed the \$10 line. The break from an \$11 basis to below \$10 was precipitous and emphatic. Eastern shippers and small packers, who had made the January and February market, showed signs of flag, giving the big packers, who had been a resolute bunch of bears all through the winter, a somewhat belated opportunity to have a voice in determining prices. It was rumored that the smaller packers had accumulated considerable quantities of lard and salt meats during the winter, and were not disposed to add to them. On the other hand, the big packers were known to be short, based on normal stocks at the end of the winter packing season, so that the prospect for cheap hogs appeared somewhat remote. Nevertheless bullish energy, which had carried the market from a \$6.50 to an \$11 basis within a few weeks, appeared to have exhausted itself, generating opinion that the crest of the rise had been passed. At no time were the cattle and hog markets on speaking terms, and the fact was generally recognized that sooner or later they must come together. As to what will happen during the summer months, one guess is as good as another. Light hogs will probably sell high right along, but a heavy run of fat packing sows is scheduled to begin the moment spring pigs are weaned and "widows" can be fattened, packers depending on this run for summer stocks. Their policy is to keep on a hand-to-mouth basis, and it is a foregone conclusion that, if they can buy hogs for less money, they will.

Meanwhile the new pig crop is arriving. Its volume is debatable, as mortality has been heavy. If Packingtown has an idea that a heavy supply is in sight for next winter, it will do well to revise its guesstimate. A journey through the hog belt discloses the fact that there will be a place at the market for every shoat that can possibly be matured, and the fact is realized. Never before has such care been given, the theory being that "pigs is pigs;" consequently the enormous mortality of last summer and fall will in all probability be avoided.

There is a logical reason for all this. Hogs have been the mainstay of the Corn Belt farmer for a year past. Hog money has extricated him from a financial quagmire, a steady stream of this lubricant returning from the primary markets to country banks to grease the squeaking machinery of commerce. The eagle may be the national emblem, but its footing in that respect is on a sentimental basis solely. From the standpoint of the farmer, a pig's head would be more appropriate. At a moment when agriculture appeared to be "up against it," in a monetary sense, swine earnings proved an effective plaster. Cattle lost money all through 1921, and what happened to the sheep- and lamb-feeder during that period is an oft-told tale of woe; but always the hog was a steady money-earner, mining the soil to extract wealth without impairing its future earning capacity. No wonder, then, that the country went tumultuously and fervently to the hog last fall, breeding every possible sow and making a gigantic effort to rehabilitate the industry overnight, as it were, thereby violating a natural law and entailing the penalty in such cases made and provided, as nature refuses to be hustled. Had the Corn Belt farmer had his way, two pigs would have been grown where one was produced last year. In fact, an effort of that nature was made. Natural causes intervened, and it is doubtful if the hog crop of next winter will be larger than

that recently garnered. Too many gilts were bred; corn was abundant, enabling breeding stock to get fat—a condition always inconsistent with fecundity; and, to make matters worse, thousands of prematurely born litters have further curtailed visible supply. The hairless pig is a comparatively recent addition to the galaxy of handicaps to pork production. While this phenomenon is generally attributed to deficient thyroid activity, scientists are forced to admit lack of accurate information as to the cause.

Packers insist that the new pig crop is 25 per cent larger than the last, but forecasting emanating from that quarter does not receive credence, as it has been so radically wrong in the past. The country has "wised" to the fact that the packer knows no more about hog-market futures than the grower, although for many years it credited him with possession of mysterious channels of information. And, for that matter, the Department of Agriculture at Washington is equally deficient. If the big packers cannot evade the keen competition displayed by their smaller competitors since the war, the jig is up, so far as their control of the winter hog market is concerned, and their time-honored system of filling their cellars with cheap hog product during the winter, to merchandise it during the summer and fall period on an ascending market, bagging a fat inventory profit in the process, will of necessity be abandoned. The small packer is in the saddle, doing most of the market pace-making, and appears to be sure of his ground. He has a distinct advantage over the big packer in the matter of overhead expense, and, as he comes in close contact with his customers, he enjoys further advantage in the selling process. From the producer's standpoint his success is a consummation devoutly to be wished, as nothing would strangle the swine industry more effectively than restricted competition on the buying side. At one stage the idea that a few packers tucked their knees around a table daily to determine the price of hogs was by no means an illusion; under new conditions this is impossible.

The summer hog market will depend on several factors, not the least of which is export demand for lard and salt meats, which up to this time has been of gratifying volume, although packers insist that they have been filling old orders, that the product is accumulating on the other side of the Atlantic, and that eventually export volume will dwindle. On the other hand, lard and pork in its various forms is the most economical meat available, and Europe must have some animal food. From no other supply source is any considerable quantity available, nor can the European swine industry be rehabilitated speedily. In fact, several years will elapse before production on the continent will catch up with consumption. Great Britain and Germany will probably always require considerable quantities of American lard and meats, so that the future of the industry is reasonably assured, as, outside the Corn Belt proper, production will always be limited and domestic consumption is steadily increasing. To insure profit for the producer, it will be merely necessary to prevent a coterie of killers from securing control of conversion and distribution.

MUTTON MARKET MAINTAINING ITS TONE

J. E. P.

NO SIGN OF SUBSIDENCE of the boom which embraced the sheep industry several months ago, and which has been walking with it to the strains of jazz music ever since, is visible. Every scrap of handwriting on the wall suggests an active summer and fall market, at a high altitude of prices. Winter feeders have made a veritable "killing," creating an abnormal appetite for thin western lambs during the 1922

range season. During the latter part of March I traversed a considerable portion of the Corn Belt, and found sheep inquiry keen everywhere. In commission-house circles at Kansas City and Omaha an opinion exists that feeders will buy themselves poor. Already a danger-signal has been hoisted, but it is extremely doubtful if it will get recognition. Get lambs and still more lambs, will be the policy of the feeder. It is the logical result of a winter lamb market ranging from \$15 to \$16 per cwt., and higher-than-a-cat's-back prices for mature sheep.

At this writing (April 1) the visible supply is limited. Colorado's lamb crop will be whittled down to a corporal's guard by May 1, and there will be no run of price-breakers from the Texas lamb-breeding ground, which has been drought-stricken all winter, forcing sheepmen down that way to unload last year's crop of lambs, and practically all their yearlings, in a strenuous effort to retain breeding stock which has been through a period of distress; and, although rain fell copiously on parched pastures late in March, there will not be sufficient grass to make a fat lamb crop this season. Arizona has a crop of fat lambs, some of which will go to eastern markets—Kansas City and St. Joseph—as the Pacific coast, which bought them last year, has enough and to spare. New Mexico is not in the sheep business to anything like the extent it was a few years ago. An indication of the disposition to gamble in the new crop is the making of contracts for unborn lambs at prices ranging from 10 to 11 cents per pound, these contracts having been turned over several times at advances. Pursued to its logical end, this kind of speculation means inflation and trouble.

About 350,000 fat lambs constitute the northern California surplus, of which approximately 25 per cent will go to Los Angeles, the rest being scheduled to move eastward, to Omaha and Chicago, in April. They will find a good market, and be

followed by the Tennessee and Kentucky movement, which is also destined to earn profitable prices, unless something snaps—and there is no sign of strain on the market cables. The native lamb crop, which reaches the market in competition with the northwestern range crop, is probably 40 per cent short of last year's, owing to liquidation of ewes all through 1921, in consequence of the delapidated wool market. The Northwest has been through a sub-arctic winter—a condition never favorable to a full lamb crop, although winter feeding has been the rule; consequently mortality among ewes will be light, and, if grass is good, a large percentage of fat lambs will be possible. The light native lamb crop will be distinctly to the advantage of the northwestern flockmaster.

One of the chief market problems of the coming season will be the disposal of an army of aged ewes which last year could not pay their way to market, many shipments showing a deficit. Feeders will probably take them this year, and it is not unlikely that eastern farmers will take a chance in wintering old range ewes to get a lamb, especially if they can be bought low. One thing is certain, and that is that competition for feeding lambs will be keen enough to limit killers to the fat end of the crop and establish a good market for both.

WOOL MARKET QUIETER

J. E. P.

PRACTICAL ASSURANCE of a duty of 33 cents a pound, scoured basis, on wool in the permanent tariff bill has injected an element of confidence that was recently lacking, reviving a moderate degree of speculative activity. Prices are 5 to 10 per cent under the recent high spot, however. Some sales have been made in Arizona recently; otherwise the West is quiet, buyers and sellers being far apart in their conception of values, which means that most of the uncontracted wool will be consigned. Around the feed-lots adjacent to Chicago and Kansas City every pound available has been cleaned up, several hundred thousand pounds having changed hands at Kansas City at 30 cents, or a fraction above the popular price.

The bull element has an idea that fine wools will be worth 50 to 60 cents as the season works along, and that it will be a 35- to 45-cent market for desirable cross-breds. This expectancy may not be materialized, but that both the situation and the prospect favor the grower is accepted. Buyers lay stress on a mixed and not wholly satisfactory mill situation, but dealers want wool, their buyers having instructions to get it whenever prices look reasonable. Their unanimous advice to the grower is to take the market—which tells its own story.

Boston quotes Delaine at 43 to 47 cents, half-blood at 37 to 40 cents, and quarter-blood at 34 to 37 cents. The flat price in Chicago and Missouri River territory has been 30 cents or a fraction over; but these bids have not dislodged much wool. In the fleece sections the clip will be 40 per cent less than last year, some of the farm pools running below that figure. These wools are no longer available to country dealers, and will not be appraised until after grading at concentration points.

There is an undisputed shortage of fine wools, and no excess supply of the best cross-breds is in sight. This will be manifested as the season works along, and is likely to result in marked improvement in the demand for less desirable cross-breds, which must be substituted.

Settlement of tariff uncertainty will facilitate trading and do much toward establishing legitimate values. A suspicion exists, however, that exporters will take advantage of exemption of carpet wools from the tariff to resort to fine work. There is an opinion among growers that Washington gives this element a degree of immunity which is incompatible with

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good administration of the law, and that mere imposition of fines, without publicity, in the case of tariff frauds is not punishment adequate to the offense. Of what benefit to the industry is a tariff susceptible of manipulation, with practical certainty that such manipulation will go unpunished?

Mills are running 80 to 85 per cent of normal capacity in this country, but the textile industry is flourishing in Great Britain and Germany. The British manufacturer is evidently recovering his grip on the goods markets of the world.

UPWARD TURN IN HIDE MARKET

J. E. P.

A GRADUALLY ADVANCING HIDE MARKET is confident expectancy in trade circles. Packers advanced the residue of their strike-period take-off early in April, refusing 10½ and demanding 11 cents. Demand for country hides has improved, especially for poor grades, 9 cents being paid for grubby stock.

A month ago what amounted to a deadlock existed, but a decline of 10 to 20 per cent in prices during March brought the market to life. Around 13½ cents tanners bought heavy native steers freely, and were also willing to absorb heavy native cows around 11½ cents. At this season quality is always poor, so that the decline, compared with the February high point, is less than the figures indicate. On the new basis several of the largest tanners in the country bought so freely that the market promptly developed an upward trend. Firmness of country hides has been due, in a measure, to the psychological influence of the proposed 15 per cent tariff.

Leather trade is admittedly quiet, but, as shoe stocks have been reduced to small volume, there is an excellent prospect of an awakening. This is invariably a quiet period in manufacturing circles, as spring demand has been satisfied and fall shoe business is not yet well under way.

If it is possible to put a 15 per cent duty on hides, response will be prompt; but, unless shoemakers are given a substantial tariff allowance, they will put up stiff opposition, involving stereotyped propaganda addressed specifically to the consumer.

STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

B BELOW IS A SUMMARY of storage holdings of frozen and cured meats on March 1, 1922, compared with March 1, 1921, and the average for March 1 for the last five years, as announced by the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates:

	Mar. 1, 1922	Mar. 1, 1921	Five-Year Average
Frozen beef	55,724,948	122,402,433	211,349,000
*Cured beef	17,933,942	24,006,135	33,498,000
Lamb and mutton	4,019,183	59,303,550	17,180,000
Frozen pork	85,135,987	208,888,960	127,573,000
*Dry salt pork	139,357,583	251,892,995	350,315,000
*Pickled pork	320,796,371	376,376,422	385,692,000
Miscellaneous	56,617,585	95,162,776	101,079,000
 Total	679,585,599	1,138,033,271	1,226,686,000
Lard	61,257,860	117,690,375	101,778,000

*Cured and in process of cure.

CORRECTION: On page 31 of the March PRODUCER the United States cotton crop for 1921 and 1920 is given as 8,340 and 13,440 bales, respectively. This, of course, is a typographical error for 8,340,000 and 13,440,000 bales.

FEEDSTUFFS

S UPPLIES of cottonseed products are getting very low. As a consequence, the price of cake and meal, 43 per cent protein content, Texas common points, has advanced from \$42 to \$44 for last month to \$48 to \$50 per ton for this month.

The hay market has also reached a new high record for the year. At Kansas City, April 4, quotations were as follows: prairie No. 1, \$11 to \$12.50; No. 2, \$9 to \$10.50; No. 3, \$6.50 to \$8.50; packing, \$5 to \$6; alfalfa, selected, dairy, \$26 to \$30; choice, \$24 to \$25.50; No. 1, \$22 to \$23.50; standard, \$18.50 to \$21.50; No. 2, \$15 to \$18; No. 3, \$12.50 to \$14.50; timothy, No. 1, \$16.50 to \$17.50; standard, \$15.50 to \$16; No. 2, \$13.50 to \$15; No. 3, \$9.50 to \$13; clover, mixed, light, \$16.50 to \$17; No. 1, \$14 to \$16; No. 2, \$10.50 to \$13.50.

REVIEW OF EASTERN MEAT-TRADE CONDITIONS

For Week Ending Friday, March 31, 1922

GENERAL MARKET CONDITIONS

Buying of all classes of fresh meats was on a conservative basis, and, except in cases where extremely light receipts caused some strength to develop, the price tendency was downward. Beef, veal, and lamb were weak to unevenly lower at all markets, with mutton about steady and pork loins strong to higher.

BEEF

While receipts of beef were generally light, trade was extremely dull, and supplies accumulated. The market on steers ruled weak at all times. While cows were in a relatively better position on account of their scarcity, the market was dull and easier. Quality was only fair, with increasing supplies of common steers. Forequarters were harder to move than hinds. Compared with the previous week, steers were \$1 lower at Boston and New York, and 50 cents to \$1 lower at Philadelphia, with cows generally 50 cents lower. Demand for bulls was limited. Kosher-beef trade was slow, prices ruling unchanged at Boston and Philadelphia and \$1 lower at New York.

VEAL

Liberal receipts of western dressed veal, with seasonally heavy local supplies, had a depressing effect on the market, and prices ruled weak to unevenly lower. Bulk of receipts were of poor quality. Compared with the previous Friday, Boston was barely steady, New York \$1 to \$2 lower, and Philadelphia \$2 to \$3 lower.

LAMB

Receipts of lamb were light to moderate, but retailers were buying very sparingly at current prices. The market weakened under accumulated supplies, and prices for the week were generally lower. Frozen Argentine lambs were slow sellers at \$24 to \$25 at Boston. Compared with the previous Friday, all markets were weak to \$1 lower.

MUTTON

Conditions in the mutton trade were similar to those of the previous week. With light receipts, the market had a generally firm undertone during the greater part of the week, with supplies being taken fairly readily. Compared with the previous week, Boston and Philadelphia were steady to \$1 higher, with New York steady.

PORK

Light receipts, rather than any particular activity to the demand, caused a stronger market on fresh pork loins. Other pork cuts were draggy, and prices showed declines for the week. Compared with the previous week, loins were \$1 to \$2 higher at Boston and Philadelphia, and \$1 higher at New York. Other fresh cuts were unevenly 50 cents to \$1 lower at all markets.

Most of the price-cutting thus far seems to have been done with safety razors.—*Syracuse Herald*.

LIVE-STOCK MARKET QUOTATIONS

Friday, March 31, 1922

[Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates]

HOGS

	CHICAGO	KANSAS CITY	OMAHA
Top	\$10.50	\$10.05	\$10.00
Bulk of Sales	9.95-10.40	9.60-10.00	9.50- 9.85
Heavy Wt., Med. to Choice	9.95-10.20	9.50- 9.90	9.50- 9.75
Medium Wt., Med. to Choice	10.10-10.50	9.75-10.00	9.60- 9.90
Light Wt., Com. to Choice	10.30-10.50	9.60-10.05	9.80-10.00
Light Lights, Com. to Choice	10.00-10.50	9.50-10.00	9.50- 9.75
Packing Sows, Smooth	9.15- 9.60	8.50- 8.90	8.75- 9.25
Packing Sows, Rough	9.00- 9.25	8.25- 8.50	8.25- 8.75
Killing Pigs, Med. to Choice	9.00-10.25		
Stocker Pigs, Com. to Choice		8.75- 9.90	9.00- 9.75

CATTLE

BEEF STEERS:

Medium and Heavy Wt. (1,100 lbs. up)—				
Choice	\$ 8.75- 9.40	\$ 8.10- 8.75	\$ 8.15- 8.65	
Good	8.10- 8.75	7.35- 8.10	7.50- 8.15	
Medium	7.35- 8.10	6.85- 7.35	7.00- 7.50	
Common	6.75- 7.35	6.25- 6.85	6.25- 7.00	
Light Weight (1,100 lbs. down)—				
Choice	8.85- 9.60	8.00- 8.65	8.25- 9.00	
Good	8.15- 8.85	7.25- 8.00	7.50- 8.25	
Medium	7.25- 8.15	6.75- 7.25	7.00- 7.50	
Common	6.60- 7.25	6.00- 6.75	6.25- 7.00	

BUTCHER CATTLE:

Heifers, Com. to Choice	5.25- 8.25	4.75- 7.25	4.75- 7.50
Cows, Com. to Choice	4.35- 7.25	4.15- 6.25	4.25- 6.50
Bulls, Bologna and Beef	4.00- 6.25	3.25- 5.25	3.25- 5.25

CANNERS AND CUTTERS:

Cows and Heifers	3.25- 4.35	2.60- 4.15	2.50- 4.25
Canner Steers	4.25- 5.25	3.25- 4.00	3.25- 4.50

VEAL CALVES:

Lt. & Med. Wt., Med. to Choice	6.25- 9.00	5.75- 8.50	7.75- 9.50
Heavy Wt., Com. to Choice	4.00- 7.00	3.50- 7.50	5.00- 7.75

FEEDER STEERS:

750-1,000 lbs., Com. to Choice	5.40- 7.25	5.50- 7.50	5.50- 7.50
1,000 lbs. up, Com. to Choice	5.50- 7.25	5.60- 7.50	5.75- 7.50

STOCKER STEERS:

Common to Choice	5.15- 7.00	4.50- 7.40	5.00- 7.50
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STOCKER COWS AND HEIFERS:

Common to Choice	4.00- 5.00	3.50- 6.00	4.00- 6.00
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LAMBS:

SHEEP

84 lbs. down—			
Medium to Prime	\$13.75-16.00	\$13.25-15.25	\$13.50-15.25
85 lbs. up—			
Medium to Prime	13.00-15.75		13.25-15.00
Culls and Common	10.50-13.50	9.00-13.00	10.50-13.25

YEARLING WETHERS:

Medium to Prime	11.75-14.75	10.25-13.75	10.50-13.50
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WETHERS:

Medium to Prime	8.75-12.50	7.50-10.75	8.25-10.75
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EWES:

Medium to Choice	7.25-10.50	6.75-10.00	7.00- 9.75
Culls and Common	3.50- 7.00	3.00- 6.50	3.75- 6.75

FEEDING LAMBS:

Medium to Choice	11.75-13.75	11.00-13.25	11.75-13.75
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Attorney-General Daugherty has invited Hoover to join in an effort to lower retail prices. Why not extend an invitation to the retailers also to participate?—San Antonio Light.

"Mischief Mixer"

One of the greatest sons of
Mousel's Beau Mischief, at

"ROLLING ACRES," Littleton, Colo.
GEORGE W. BAKER, Proprietor

THE PRODUCER

LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

APPENDED ARE TABLES showing receipts, shipments, and slaughter of live stock at sixty-eight markets for the month of February, 1922, compared with February, 1921, and the February averages for the five-year period 1917-21:

RECEIPTS

	Feb., 1922	Feb., 1921	Average 1917-21
Cattle	1,416,124	1,189,740	1,384,542
Hogs	3,612,341	4,008,903	4,052,231
Sheep	1,399,496	1,516,089	1,313,983

TOTAL SHIPMENTS*

	Feb., 1922	Feb., 1921	Average 1917-21
Cattle	585,813	464,641	518,813
Hogs	1,327,402	1,390,667	1,387,176
Sheep	656,387	585,615	538,792

*Includes stockers and feeders.

STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS

	Feb., 1922	Feb., 1921	Average 1917-21
Cattle	243,154	165,829	219,311
Hogs	61,728	51,253	55,146
Sheep	168,612	61,643	112,567

LOCAL SLAUGHTER

	Feb., 1922	Feb., 1921	Average 1917-21
Cattle	821,540	728,052	852,628
Hogs	2,285,224	2,604,290	2,653,126
Sheep	759,678	934,642	776,773

CLOSING WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED FRESH MEATS

For Week Ending Friday, March 31, 1922

BOSTON

BEEF

STEERS:		LAMB AND MUTTON
Good	\$12.00-12.50	Choice \$28.00
Medium	11.50-12.00	Good 27.00-28.00
Common	11.00-11.50	Medium 26.00-27.00
COWS:	10.00-10.50	Common 25.00-26.00
Good	9.50-10.00	
Medium	9.00- 9.50	
Common	9.00- 9.50	
BULLS:		MUTTON:
Good	8.00	Good 20.00-21.00
Medium	7.00- 7.50	Medium 17.00-19.00
Common	6.50- 7.00	Common 14.00-16.00

NEW YORK

STEERS:		LAMBS:
Good	\$12.50-13.00	Choice \$28.00-30.00
Medium	12.00-12.50	Good 27.00-28.00
Common	11.00-12.00	Medium 25.00-26.00
COWS:	10.00-11.00	Common 22.00-24.00
Good	9.50-10.00	
Medium	9.00- 9.50	
Common	8.00- 8.50	
BULLS:		MUTTON:
Good	8.50- 9.50	Good 19.00-20.00
Medium	8.00- 8.50	Medium 16.00-18.00
Common	7.50- 8.00	Common 14.00-16.00

TRADE REVIEW

LIVE-STOCK MARKET OUTLOOK

BY JAMES E. POOLE

WINTER LIVE-STOCK MARKET HAPPENINGS are trade history; interest now centers in the probable course of spring and summer events. Both the situation and the prospect are badly mixed, but the trade has access to its time-honored pillar of strength, Hope, which is invariably modified by Fear. On this occasion, however, Confidence appears to have acquired substantial footing. Not that producers are thinking in terms of high prices; on the contrary, their ideas run in such channels as stability and net profit.

Feeders Evince More Caution

Hope engendered by the February rise in middle grades of steers has subsided in consequence of the 50- to 75-cent break late in March. The advance was not due to improved beef demand, but to feeder competition. Corn Belt feeders, who had marketed the set of cattle laid in last fall at a profit, bought another stack of chips, sitting in at a game which has for its fascination the uncertainty of the draw in competition with packers, as the bulk of the stuff they acquired was already in the near-beef class. By the time they were paying \$7.50 to \$8.25 for cattle a danger-signal was hoisted, feeders backed away from apparent, if not actual, peril, and normal demand conditions were restored; whereupon feeders, taking alarm at the slump, literally deluged the market with steers, many of which could have been carried on corn economically another thirty to sixty days. The foregoing is the why and wherefore of the February and early March rise in cattle; also of the subsequent slump.

April 1 advices indicate an adequate beef supply for the ensuing thirty to sixty days. All the cattle that have been on corn two to three months are for sale, as the money is needed and holders are apprehensive of danger by running into longer feeds. This should insure adequate receipts after June 1, as most of the winter-fed steers will be out of the way by that time, and eastern cattle, now running freely, will have been liquidated. Colorado has a crop of "pulpers" to unload, but Texas feed-lots have been combed by California buyers all through the winter. Nebraska and South Dakota will have some fat steers to turn loose in May and June, but the whole package will be inconsiderable when measured by the reserve supply of a year ago. The whole situation hinges on beef consumption; and that, unfortunately, is still seriously restricted.

Fair Prospect for Yearlings

A good summer yearling market is in the offing. In fact, it promises to be a repetition of what happened last summer. But there are yearlings and yearlings. Already a spread of \$2 per cwt. exists between the half-fat and well-conditioned varieties, and this will be further emphasized as the season works along, if feeders insist on sending little cattle to the butcher in not much better than stocker condition. As a lot of western calves went into the Corn Belt last fall, the money they earn means much to their owners, and maximum results are impossible without intelligent methods. The difference between a \$7.50 and a \$9 yearling is, in many cases, merely a matter of condition.

Heavy cattle will sell to better advantage than last year, for the reason that there will be fewer of them; but market

capacity to absorb such bullocks is limited, and will continue to be. Opening of the summer-resort season will enlarge the market for heavy beef, and a little will be wanted at Boston and New York. Central and western demand for big cuts has practically disappeared, which accounts for a \$9 to \$9.40 market for 700-pound fat heifers, the small killer being able to handle that kind of product, whereas he will not look at a 1,400-pound steer, even as a gift.

Export Demand Stiffening Prices for Corn-Feds

Exporters have taken enough cattle during the past six weeks to prop the price list. They took 5,300 at Chicago in March, and practically the same number at the Missouri River, paying anywhere from \$7.50 to \$9 per cwt., with \$7.85 to \$8 their popular prices. Just how long this outlet will continue open is anybody's guess. In fact, it may shut up overnight, and certainly will be restricted when Canadian stall-fed cattle are ready to move through Montreal. A virulent and widespread outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in England is mainly responsible for this export trade, so many bullocks having gone into the trench, in an effort to suppress the plague, that the English market has run short of home-killed beef—the guise in which American corn-fed beef vends in that market. Plenty of frozen and chilled meat is available, but when a substitute for the "roast beef of old England" is needed only American corn-fed product is eligible.

As to what western range cattle will do at the market, nothing but a raw guess is now possible. Assuming that the labor situation clarifies and industrial activity increases, that class of cattle ought to find an \$8 market, if not better. While considerable confidence has been engendered in trade circles recently, few are predicting \$10 cattle—which is one reason why it may happen. The talent is super-cautious in the matter of forecasting. Present indications are that the beef round-up in the Northwest will be light enough to make an active, healthy market, regardless of the cattle that may be disgorged by Oklahoma and Kansas pastures; and every acre of that grass will be tenanted.

Hogs Have Seen Pinnacle

Hogs have probably seen high point for the year. Prices have been so radically out of line with both corn and product, not to speak of cattle, as to render readjustment necessary. It is now evident that cattle will not ascend to the level of hogs; consequently hogs must decline. Even on a \$10 basis the market has a top-heavy appearance. Provision stocks are light, but packers scent a heavy summer run of fat sows, and are not walking the floor nights because their shelves are not loaded. Europe has been taking considerable lard and other product, but will need less as temperatures rise, and the purchasing capacity of continental Europe is far below normal. This does not mean cheap hogs, but the price of porkers will be more in line with that of cattle during the rest of the year.

Good Lamb Market Assured

A high summer lamb market is an air-tight cinch. The native lamb crop is 40 per cent less than last year—probably more. Western lambs will not be able to repeat the 1921 run, and feeder demand will amount to a buying furore, the probability being that feeders will compete with packers on half-fat western lambs. There will be no run of Texas grassers, the Kentucky and Tennessee lamb crop is but normal, and, if Jersey City eccentricity can be squelched, the entire crop of western lambs will command good prices. Early contracts for new lambs in Arizona at \$10 have recently changed hands at \$10.50 and \$11, suggesting the possibility of another speculative spree.

EXPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCTS IN FEBRUARY

BELOW ARE SHOWN the exports of meat products from the United States in February, 1922, compared with February, 1921, and for the eight months ended February, 1922, compared with the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year:

BEEF PRODUCTS

(Pounds)

Articles	February		Eight Months Ending February	
	1922	1921	1922	1921
Beef, canned	193,148	1,708,678	2,806,728	9,401,162
Beef, fresh	320,430	979,081	3,074,100	20,031,896
Beef, pickled, etc.	2,069,015	1,750,756	17,481,500	15,846,397
Oleo oil	8,047,556	9,250,483	72,810,294	62,749,566
Totals	10,630,149	13,688,908	96,172,622	108,029,021

PORK PRODUCTS

(Pounds)

Articles	February		Eight Months Ending February	
	1922	1921	1922	1921
Pork, fresh	879,227	5,914,797	21,272,741	44,928,665
Pork, pickled, etc.	2,816,260	3,150,452	23,347,837	23,442,495
Bacon	30,973,688	31,637,140	255,908,352	347,621,154
Hams and shoulders	25,209,136	15,847,700	168,753,438	93,937,818
Lard	75,519,634	91,840,951	597,477,042	494,005,145
Neutral lard	2,571,219	2,843,921	14,162,588	15,373,878
Sausage, canned	182,145	380,353	1,310,911	3,610,277
*Lard compounds	1,629,554	3,606,891	24,724,656	24,562,385
Margarine	125,666	484,754	1,427,881	5,157,624
Totals	139,006,529	155,707,058	1,108,385,441	1,052,639,441

*Includes vegetable fats prior to January 1, 1922.

MEAT EXPORTS DECREASE IN VALUE

ALTHOUGH EXPORTS of meat and meat products during 1921, as compared with 1920, showed an increase of 3 per cent in quantity, the value decreased 36 per cent, according to official figures now available. Exports of all kinds of meat and meat products during 1921 aggregated 1,945,660,210 pounds, worth \$297,155,180, as compared with 1,883,389,053 pounds, worth \$462,500,064, during 1920. These figures indicate the tremendous declines which have occurred in wholesale meat prices during the past year.

"One of the outstanding features of the year's export trade was the great increase in the amount of lard shipped to other countries," says the *Meat and Live Stock Digest*, published by the Institute of American Meat Packers. "During 1921 exports of lard—892,883,645 pounds—were about 270,000,000 pounds, or 40 per cent heavier than during 1920, but the value decreased about \$33,000,000, or 22 per cent. A comparison of 1921 and 1913 figures shows that lard exports in 1921 exceeded 1913 shipments by about 317,000,000 pounds."

"Exports of hams and shoulders in 1921, as compared with 1920, increased about 24 per cent, or 47,000,000 pounds, in quantity, but decreased more than 6 per cent, or \$3,000,000, in value.

"Bacon exports showed decreases both in quantity and value. The quantity exported in 1921 was 415,299,522 pounds, which was 34 per cent, or 221,376,050 pounds, less than in 1920, and the value in 1921 was about 56 per cent, or \$88,121,905, less than in the preceding year.

"Exports of fresh beef during 1921, amounting to 10,412,790 pounds, were the lightest since 1913, when only about 7,000,000 pounds were exported.

"During 1919, the peak year for exports, the United States sent abroad more than one billion dollars' worth of meat products. During last year, however, despite the fact that the quantity had decreased less than half, exports of meat and meat products were valued at less than \$300,000,000, or \$700,000,000 less than in 1919. Exports during 1921 exceeded those of 1913 in quantity by about half a billion pounds."

The following table shows the quantity and value of exports for 1913 and for each of the last four years:

	Quantity	Value
1913	1,302,833,615	\$ 155,941,247
1918	3,159,116,126	844,311,698
1919	3,242,603,537	1,009,605,811
1920	1,883,389,053	462,000,084
1921	1,945,660,210	297,105,110

DENMARK AS A COMPETITOR FOR BRITAIN'S BACON TRADE

PREVIOUS TO 1910 the United States was the principal source of Great Britain's bacon imports. In that year Denmark took the lead. The enormous quantities of pork products needed during the war temporarily restored the American hog to first place. The Danes, cut off from their markets by the U-boat, were compelled to eat most of their own supplies. Since then, however, Denmark has been rapidly building up her herds and is once more threatening our supremacy.

Normally British requirements of foreign bacon have been about 700,000,000 pounds a year. Next to the United States and Denmark, Canada furnishes the largest share of this. Smaller amounts are imported from Sweden, the Netherlands, and a few other countries. The trend of the British bacon trade is shown by the following tabulation of imports (in pounds) from the three leading sources of supply for the years 1913, 1914, 1920, and 1921:

	United States	Denmark	Canada
1913	201,978,000	261,514,000	43,389,000
1914	170,571,000	304,058,000	38,336,000
1920	376,574,000	78,856,000	167,217,000
1921	281,050,000	207,187,000	94,531,000

In 1914 Denmark had 2,496,000 swine. At the conclusion of the war the number had dwindled to less than half a million. In 1921 there were 1,430,000. Another two or three years will probably see her hog population restored to the pre-war figure. It is doubtful, however, if that small country can support much more than 3,000,000 head—a number quite insufficient to supply the British trade, even if the entire product were shipped across the North Sea.

The reasons for the British preference for Danish bacon are summarized in a recent report to the United States Department of Agriculture by a specialist in foreign marketing now in Europe. Denmark, being chiefly dependent on the products of her soil, long ago industrialized her agriculture. Everything is managed on a co-operative basis, and the different branches of agricultural industry are closely co-ordinated. This insures regulation of output, uniformity of quality, and rigid control. Great Britain being the Dane's best customer for his butter, bacon, and eggs, he has specialized with that one market in mind. A breed of hog has been evolved which in every particular answers the British requirements. It is a trim, smooth, long- and flat-sided, evenly fleshed animal weighing from 175 to 200 pounds—a pig strictly conforming to the "bacon type." Its ration consists of an abundance of skimmed milk from the co-operative dairies, corn (from the United States and Argentina), barley, and roots. Killed in co-operative slaughter-houses financed by co-operative banks, its sides are cured in a very mild pickle, which leaves their lean portions soft and sweet, while the fat remains firm. Every

parcel destined for export is examined and stamped by government inspectors, and men are stationed at the ports in England to supervise the handling and distribution of the product. If an accumulation threatens, shipments are immediately stopped. Thus the commodity is never allowed to grow stale.

In the opinion of the writer referred to, if the American hog-raiser and packer are effectively to compete with the Danish commodity in the British market, and not simply be content with regarding this market as a potential safety-valve for any surplus that may exist after home demands have been supplied, they must do what the Canadians are now trying to do—make a diligent study of British tastes and adapt their methods strictly to British requirements. They must grow a leaner type of animal than wanted for the home market, feed it a better-balanced ration—one richer in protein content—and use a milder cure than is customary in the United States. This problem, with our highly developed refrigeration system, should present no insuperable difficulties, if we go about it in the right way. It is true that American bacon acquired a bad reputation during and immediately following the war, due to its excessive saltiness and the fact that large quantities were allowed to become tainted through improper handling; but this handicap may be overcome by painstaking attention to the details of British preferences in the way of feeding, curing, and cutting. Men thoroughly familiar with American packing-house methods should be placed at the principal centers abroad, and an attempt should be made to regulate supply to demand. In this manner the advantage enjoyed by England's continental neighbors in the much shorter time required for transportation to market can be largely offset.

A permanent, dependable outlet for upward of half a billion pounds of bacon annually should be worth considerable effort to gain and maintain. For an article that suits his fancy the British consumer is ready to pay a good price. War-time wages enabled the workman to indulge his gustatory preferences, and developed his taste for the milder cures, on which he still insists. Top prices paid for bacon at British markets in 1913 and 1921 were as follows (cents per pound):

	1913	1921
Irish	17.8	42.0
Danish	17.3	40.8
Canadian	16.1	33.3
United States	15.4	25.5

Owing to differing methods of cutting and certain other factors, these quotations are not strictly comparable; but they give a fair general idea of the relative value attached by the British trade to the product of the various countries.

OPERATIONS OF WAR FINANCE CORPORATION

THE FOLLOWING ADVANCES to banking and financing institutions, and to co-operative associations, for agricultural and live-stock purposes had been approved by the War Finance Corporation up to March 11, 1922:

Live stock	\$ 64,127,443.90
Cotton	23,404,200.52
Grain	21,290,189.31
Tobacco	10,000,000.00
Sugar beets	9,996,000.00
Rice	2,500,000.00
Dried fruits	1,250,000.00
Peanuts	1,097,700.00
Canned fruits	300,000.00
General agricultural purposes	124,224,068.53
 Total	 \$258,189,602.26

Advances for export and agricultural purposes to the same date totaled \$308,439,722.29.

FOREIGN

ARGENTINE LIVE-STOCK SITUATION

BY JOHN G. KIDD

[Special Correspondence to *The Producer*]

BUENOS AIRES, January 20, 1922.

ALL INTERESTED in the Argentine live-stock industry have had their attention taken up during the last month by a species of live-stock breeders' convention which has been going on here in Buenos Aires. I use this rather indefinite description for the reason that the convention simply grew up on its own accord and without any prior organization worth speaking of. A number of prominent breeders decided to meet on a certain day, and sent out a general invitation to all interested in live-stock problems to attend. The gathering which evolved was unexpectedly large. It was also highly representative, and the matters brought up for discussion were of such importance that it received lavish newspaper publicity. The next thing we knew was that the leading men present had been appointed to act on various special committees, and within a week the general meetings called to listen to the findings of these subcommittees were such that Buenos Aires finally woke up to the fact that the biggest convention of cattle-breeders and live-stock men ever known in the history of the country was being held.

It all happened more or less accidentally, but I have no doubt as to the importance of the development to the national live-stock industry. It marks the beginning of a new era in Argentina's rural production. Never before have the problems of the producer been discussed so much in the open, and never before have they been brought so emphatically to the attention of the man in the street.

The item of the local meat trade has led to many angry discussions—a fact which is not to be wondered at when it is considered that Buenos Aires, with its population of nearly 2,000,000, is on short rations owing to the murderously high level of retail meat prices. Profiteering by the retailers is one of the big problems in front of the local live-stock industry, and the solution of this problem by itself would be a source of immense relief to the live-stock producing interests. Here in Buenos Aires a choice cut of meat costs the equivalent of 30 cents, American money, per pound—an absolute disgrace in a country where the custom of giving a gang of twenty peons a whole carcass to make a meal off is swiftly coming back into fashion. It is safe to say that meat consumption in the capital is almost 50 per cent below normal. Various remedies have been proposed, and, in view of the inefficiency of the municipal meat markets recently inaugurated for the ostensible purpose of reducing retail meat prices, the live-stock interests are studying ways and means of bringing real pressure to bear on the retail meat trade. The subcommittee on the local meat trade submitted a report at one of the recent sessions of the convention, in which it was recommended that the municipality should be requested to fix, periodically, maximum meat prices, having regard to the market quotations and to the current values of live stock. It was also recommended that the municipal authorities should seek the co-operation of live-stock associations and traders in giving effect to this measure. It was further urged that butcher shops in the federal capital violating the limits of the maximum prices fixed by the muni-

cipality be immediately closed down, and their owners or managers blacklisted by the municipality.

The crux of the main live-stock problem as it now stands, however, may be signified in one word, "rents." It is realized that the war boom in the poorer classes of cattle used for canning, jerked beef, and exportation to Italy and other parts of southern Europe has left the country for keeps, or at least until the next war; and, whereas values in these classes have declined in some instances as much as 80 and 90 per cent, it is acknowledged that the present prices for top-class steers for the chilled-beef trade could show a profit on the pre-war average of rentals. This question of rents has come in for careful study at the convention, and the tendency which has already manifested itself among a good number of landowners to reduce land rents voluntarily, even for the land held under contracts, is likely to grow apace from now on. The government has just submitted a project to Congress for drastic legislation which would forcibly bring land rents down, but as a law of similar character in regard to city properties has been bitterly criticised as unconstitutional, and as other land legislation of a much more practical order and of equally pressing importance is still hanging fire, it is difficult to anticipate the end of this latest scheme. That something will have to be done, unless landowners act wisely on their own accord, goes without saying.

Another problem for rural producers in general is that of railroad freight rates. At the height of the 1920 boom, in which two years' crops were shifted inside of nine months, the railways pledged themselves to foolish promises to their workers, on the short-sighted assumption that the boom would last forever. The result is that the railways are tremendously overstaffed, while the economic status of the Argentine railway worker is perhaps the highest in the world today. Moreover, the executive offices of the railways are swarming with privileged employees drawing the salaries of indispensable foreigners for work which locally available help could perform equally well for half the money. And, in the face of the world tendency toward deflation in transportation costs, the railways are agitating for fresh tariff increases, the main burden of which would have to be borne by the rural producer, as a means of extricating themselves from their financial difficulties. Meanwhile the railways are openly advertising their unwillingness to consider the proposition of wage cuts for their underworked personnel.

Recent weather conditions have not been all that could be desired for the harvest, but have brought pastures into wonderful bloom. So unquestionably favorable are the natural conditions of meat production in this country that even at present prices profits are not excluded on the higher classes of beef. In the poorer stuff, however, the collapse has been so complete that animals which in war time were profitably sold for canning purposes or for conversion into jerked beef present a problem for which there seems to be no immediate hope of a solution. It is this circumstance which has practically strangled the cattle-raising industries of Brazil and Paraguay.

The wool trade is showing signs of steady improvement, although the increase in values has been only slight as compared with the increase in the volume of wool being bought for export. The movement of hides has also shown a decided improvement in the last three or four weeks, and some big parcels have left for the United States.

Hog prices represent the branch of the live-stock industry in which deflation has done the least amount of damage from the producer's standpoint. Recent declines in corn values are bringing in a few nibbles from feeders, which has helped the market for stock pigs. Most of the pork raised in this country is, however, produced on large tracts of alfalfa camp, the

finishing-off process being to allow the hogs to hog off their own corn—a process which will begin on a big scale in the months of April and May. Cattle and sheep values remain practically unchanged.

ENGLISH LIVE-STOCK LETTER

BY JOSEPH RAYMOND

[Special Correspondence to *The Producer*]

LONDON, March 17, 1922.

DESPITE THE THREAT of a national strike in more than one industry, and in the face of an all-around stagnation in general trade, a movement toward still higher prices in fat stock and dead meat throughout Great Britain stands as a remarkable testimony to the great capacity which this country possesses as a meat-eating nation. Home-stock statistics of themselves warrant the present appreciation in values; for, although the spring lambing has shown a considerable improvement this year, sheep holdings throughout the country are believed to be seriously diminished at the present time, owing to the forced marketings in the drought weather of last year. The beef census may not have materially changed. It might be argued that frozen-meat supplies could by their abundance eliminate all this shortage; but the answer—namely, that the British public, when it can afford it, will still give home meat that greater preference over imported supplies—is the strongest tribute to the lasting power of the British consumers' purse in regard to the weekly domestic meat bill.

By the way, speaking of preference being accorded to home and empire supplies, there seems to be on foot an organized movement for making these regularly the subject of first consideration, as far as the British army and navy are concerned; for questions on this subject in the House of Commons this week have drawn the reply that it is the policy of the Admiralty to accord a definite preference in price to products of the British Empire, a similar remark being made on behalf of the British army authorities.

A comment of the retail meat trade at the present moment is that the English butcher is passing through a very lean time, seeing that sides of beef are now costing him in the market up to 24 cents per pound (reckoning 2 cents = 1d.), sheep 36 cents, and lambs 48 cents. These are prices for home stuff that the English butcher so often professes to supply when he is actually cutting up a fine New Zealand carcass. Of these colonial supplies he will shortly have large new stocks to avail himself of, as there are due to arrive in England during the present month no less than eleven big frozen-meat steamers from New Zealand, having on board a total of 687,795 carcasses. During the first half of next month New Zealand arrivals here will total another 207,798 carcasses, so that the cold-storage business is again expecting a tight time. Yet, in spite of all these facts, we find home live stock steadily mounting the price scale; and this, as far as cattle are concerned, must be partly attributable to the impossibility of moving stock over certain areas, in view of the continuance of foot-and-mouth disease. Restrictions of this kind are being gradually relaxed on the diminution of this grave trouble, the number of fresh outbreaks of the disease having decreased considerably in the last week or two. The total number of outbreaks was 935, or 90 more than up to a week before. Up to that time authority had been given for the slaughter of 20,225 cattle, 13,644 sheep, 7,779 pigs, and 40 goats.

Cattle are dearer in the north than they are in the southern counties. Best fat bullocks in the Midlands today make \$14.75 per 112 pounds (reckoning \$4.50 = £1), but farther

north they are \$2 dearer. Fat sheep have been making for well-finished animals as much as \$5.50 per fourteen-pound stone, as compared with \$1.50 only a short time ago. Ewes have made from \$2 to \$2.50 per eight-pound stone in the home counties—that is, within 100 miles of the London market. The supply of veal calves has been very large, and the reopening of markets is generally the signal for dairy farmers to relieve themselves of surplus calves held up on the farms owing to foot-and-mouth restrictions.

Coming once more to the dead-meat markets, one sees there in the beef section a continued war in the matter of augmented chilled supplies. The big firm of Vesteys is apparently still engaged in competing with the American operators of the Argentine works, as far as swollen output is concerned, and the consequence still is that the glut of chilled meat is keeping Argentine hinds on Smithfield market down to a fraction over 10 cents per pound and 7 cents for fores, the price by the side working out in the neighborhood of 9 cents per pound. While this goes on, the ordinary frozen-beef trade is standing by helpless, practically no sales of Australian or New Zealand beef being made, and the stuff being, for that reason, unquotable. As a matter of fact, if it were not for the recent sales of large quantities of the older Australian beef to buyers on the continent of Europe, this market would have reached a very serious position indeed; but the recent big clearances to Europe are reported to have amounted to the total clearance of the older stuff until now on hand.

There are at present in this country a considerable number of representatives of Australian stock-raising interests, on a visit to England to see if there is any way out of the apparently hopeless position in which the Australian beef-export trade finds itself by reason of continued high costs and decreased selling values. It is believed that freights may be slightly further reduced, if exporters can show on their side some economy in preparing handling charges; but the situation is very obscure, and there does not seem much hope for a profitable career for the colonial beef works this year.

LIVE-STOCK INTERESTS IN AUSTRALASIA

BY A. C. MILLS

[*Special Correspondence to The Producer*]

MELBOURNE, February 15, 1922.

HEAVY MONSOONAL RAINS have fallen over a large portion of Queensland during the last fortnight, causing more or less serious floods in parts. One report received in Melbourne a couple of days ago says that 100,000 sheep have been drowned in the central-west district alone. This is probably an exaggeration, but no doubt there have been some heavy losses. Five to ten inches of rain in twenty-four hours on plain country, with no get-away for the water, is liable to cause trouble. Apart from individual cases of bad luck, the rains will do much good, especially if they spread across the top of the continent and so cover the whole of the northern cattle-raising country. Wet weather is looked for in the north at this time of the year to assure feed in the winter.

Climatic conditions in the south remain about normal—that is to say, dry. Rain is not wanted there yet, as it will only start feed that is liable to get burned up by subsequent hot weather. There is plenty of good dry grass about—too much in many districts—and there will be no difficulty in carrying stock into the autumn.

Following on an improvement in the frozen lamb and mutton market oversea, and in wool generally, sheep values have advanced sharply. Fats have appreciated on an average about \$1 a head in Australia since last writing, and stores

from 50 to 75 cents. On the other hand, absolutely no improvement can be reported in cattle; in fact, prices have dropped, prime bullocks being worth today approximately \$5 less than a month ago.

As mentioned in previous letters, the slump in cattle can be attributed wholly to the absence of a reasonable oversea market for frozen beef. Of the thirteen packing-houses in the State of Queensland only one is at present killing, and it is quite possible that will close shortly. It is currently reported that all the packers in the state have just agreed not to buy any more stock for export purposes until costs of treating and shipping are reduced. As a first step in this direction, they are approaching the Arbitration Court with a view to getting wages of employees lowered. It is hoped that, if successful there, it will be possible to obtain a further cut in sea freights, which on beef to the United Kingdom is now 2½ cents per pound. Altogether, with existing wages and shipping charges, it costs 6 cents a pound to land beef in London. As Australian beef is today selling in London at 8 cents per pound by the side, it is obvious that considerable savings will have to be effected somewhere if the export trade is to be resumed on a paying basis. Of course, should the market on the other side improve, shipping might be possible, but there does not seem to be much chance of that happening just yet. For reasons best known to themselves, South American packers are following a policy of swamping the British market with beef, and nobody else is allowed to have a look-in. As Argentine frozen beef is averaging about 9 cents a pound in London, and chilled less than a cent more, it looks as if big money were being lost.

The Western Australian government is reported to be making arrangements to reopen their freezing and canning works at Wyndham, in the far northwest, at an early date. These did not operate at all last year. Report also has it that the government is going to buy cattle on the basis of \$2.40 per hundred pounds, delivered at the yards. It is a miserable price, but it is a case of take it or leave it for the grower. The meat-works provide the only practical outlet for fats in the district, except for a few hundreds per month that can be shipped by sea south to Perth or north to Java and the Straits Settlements. Vesteys' factory at Darwin, in the Northern Territory, is apparently not going to open this year. Of course, one must recognize that, with costs and values as they are at present, the government runs a risk of losing money buying cattle at even \$2.40 per cwt.

Commonwealth trade figures for the six months ended December 31, 1921, are much more healthy than those for similar terms of recent years, in so much as the value of exports substantially exceeds imports. Compared with July-December, 1920, imports show a falling-off of no less than \$217,000,000—are, in fact, just about half, the total being \$222,400,000. On the other hand, exports decreased only by \$21,525,000, which, considering the deflation that has taken place, is very little. The total value of exports for the last six months is given as \$290,500,000, being \$68,100,000 in excess of imports. The following figure most largely in the outgoings: wool, \$99,650,000; wheat, \$58,850,000; flour, \$15,525,000; butter, \$20,535,000; hides and skins, \$9,015,000; frozen beef, \$5,100,000.

Appended are last week's quotations, at per head, for fat stock in the metropolitan municipal sale-yards specified: Melbourne—prime heavy bullocks, \$45 to \$52.50; extra ditto, to \$61.25; medium ditto, \$35 to \$42.50; good fat cows, \$23.75 to \$27.50; fat cross-bred wethers, \$4.80 to \$5.50; ditto ewes, \$3.50 to \$3.85; prime Merino wethers, \$4.20 to \$4.45; ditto ewes, to \$4.45; prime fat lambs, \$4.60 to \$5.50, and some higher. Sydney—prime weighty bullocks, \$37.50 to \$45; extra ditto, to \$50; medium weights, \$32.50 to \$37.50; fat cows, \$26; best cross-

bred wethers, \$4.30 to \$5; ditto ewes, \$4.30 to \$4.60; fat Merino wethers, \$4.20 to \$4.65; ditto ewes, to \$3.60; prime lambs, to \$5.30. Brisbane—prime heavy bullocks, \$37.50 to \$42.50; extra ditto, to \$47; medium bullocks, \$30 to \$36; fat cows, \$20 to \$27.50.

New Zealand is having a good season on the whole, although some districts complain of too much rain lately and feed too lush. As in Australia, sheep values have risen solidly in sympathy with wool and frozen mutton. Lambs are up nearly \$2 and wethers about \$1 in the month. Stores have appreciated in proportion. Cattle still drag, although not to the extent they do in the Commonwealth. Practically all the packing-houses in both islands are busy killing lambs, and to a less extent sheep, for export. No beef worth speaking of is going into the freezing-chambers.

The maternal, or vote-catching, instinct of the New Zealand government has led it to project a meat pool, primarily for the benefit of the smaller co-operative packing companies. In December, when the market for mutton and lamb was away down, it looked as if these concerns were in for a very bad time—worse than last year. They sent out S. O. S. messages to the government, with the result mentioned. It is proposed that all stock killed for export shall be pooled and come under the management of a committee of five producers and two representatives of the government. This board will control the export and oversea sale of the meat, and grant advances to the producer—probably up to 75 per cent of the value. The government promises to guarantee the advances. A bill has just gone through Parliament to give legislative sanction to the scheme, despite the fact that, thanks to the improved market for frozen meat, the excuse or necessity for a pool has quite disappeared.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN LANDS

Live Stock in Latvia

The first live stock figures from Latvia that have come under our notice are as below:

	1913	1920
Cattle	912,000	768,352
Sheep	996,000	977,991
Hogs	557,000	481,291

German Meat Supplies

Although considerably larger than for the corresponding period of 1920, the number of animals slaughtered in Germany during the first six months of 1921 was still far below that of the first half of 1913. The amount of domestic meat available for consumption during the first half of 1921 was less than 40 per cent of the 1913 supply.

Canadian Farmers Want Wheat Board Revived

A delegation of farmers from western Canada has presented a petition to the Dominion government asking that the Canadian wheat board be reinstated for the handling of the 1922 crop "and until such times as world conditions again become normal." The request has been referred to the Agricultural Committee of the House of Commons.

Farmers of Argentina Threaten to Strike

More than 30,000 Argentine farmers, it is reported, have threatened to discontinue working their lands unless rents are reduced. President Irogoyen has sent representatives of the government into the country in an attempt to prevent the strike. The president promises that he will make every possible effort to get pending rent laws through Congress.

Mexico After American Agricultural Products

The government of Mexico has invited the American Farm Bureau Federation to send a commission to that country for the purpose of investigating the possibility of greatly enlarging the market for American agricultural products there. President Howard will head the delegation. The government of Mexico recently purchased 12,000 pure-bred pigs in the United States, to be distributed for breeding purposes. Besides, more than 1,000 head of pure-bred dairy and beef cattle have been imported from the United States since the first of the year.

Increased Farming Activity in Western Canada

Great activity in live-stock production will take place in western Canada this year, says a report sent out by the American Chamber of Commerce in Canada. Heartened by the steadily rising prices for cattle, sheep, hogs, and dairy products from the low point of last year, farmers in the mixed farming regions are enlarging their holdings. Further development of the European market has created a sharp demand for their products. Educational work carried on by the Dominion and provincial governments has been a tremendous incentive to the expansion of the live-stock industry. As a result, the increase in the number of animals in a year has been unusually large.

OUR FOREIGN COMMERCE IN FEBRUARY

A FURTHER SLUMP in exports was recorded in February, value falling below that of any month since November, 1914. Imports reached approximately the same total as in January, leaving the smallest excess of exports since September, 1914. Preliminary figures, as announced by the Department of Commerce, follow:

	Feb., 1922	Feb., 1921
Exports	\$251,000,000	\$486,454,090
Imports	217,000,000	214,529,680
Excess of exports.	\$ 34,000,000	\$271,924,410

If our foreign trade keeps up its present progress in the same direction, all Atlantic ports will soon be ex-ports.—*Baltimore Sun*.

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ROUND THE RANGE

BREEDS OF BEEF CATTLE

Last month we quoted the description of the Shorthorn found in Farmers' Bulletin 612, recently issued by the Department of Agriculture. Below we reproduce what this interesting pamphlet has to say about the characteristics of the Hereford breed:

HEREFORD

"The Hereford ranks next to the Shorthorn in numbers in the United States. The first known importations were made in 1817 by Henry Clay and Lewis Sanders. The early development of the Herefords in America was brought about largely through the efforts of William T. Sotham and T. L. Miller. In 1881 the American Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association was formed. . . .

"From the first Hereford cattle, because of their 'rustling' ability, found favor with the western range men. On scant pastures and on the range, where water-holes are far apart, the Hereford has shown its merit. Not only do the individuals of this breed thrive under adverse conditions, but they also respond readily to a favorable environment. The bulls are active, vigorous, prepotent, and very sure breeders.

"The criticism formerly made of the breed because of a light hindquarter can scarcely be considered just today. The animals are somewhat less rangy, more compact, and more heavily fleshed than formerly. The tendency to patchiness about the root of the tail and 'rolls' on the sides is also a criticism frequently heard. While the Hereford cows have been criticized because of scanty milk flow, there are few, if any, that do not produce enough to raise a good calf. As a breed they have a better heart girth and seem to withstand adverse conditions better than the Shorthorns. They mature early and fatten readily in the feed-lot.

"The weight of the Hereford cattle is only slightly less than that of the Shorthorn, but the conformation is such that a Hereford looks smaller than a Shorthorn of equal weight. Mature bulls weigh from 1,900 to 2,200 pounds, while the cows weigh from 1,200 to 1,600 pounds. It is not unusual for mature animals of either sex to weigh more.

"The Hereford color is distinctive. It may be described as a medium to deep rich red, with white head, breast, belly, crest, switch, and legs below the knee and hock. White occurring back of the crops, high on the flank, or too high on the legs is objectionable. A pure-white face is preferred, although many pure-bred animals show spots about the face, and especially some red around the eyes. The hair is usually medium to long, soft and silky, with a curly tendency; but short-haired animals may be found. A

characteristic of Hereford color is the dominance of the white face over the color markings of other breeds. Calves sired by a pure-bred Hereford bull, as a rule, show the characteristic white face.

"The Hereford possesses a conformation which represents good beef type. The body is low, compact, and blocky, with well-sprung ribs, broad loin, and wide hips without prominent hip bones. The quarter is more rounded and bulging than that of the Shorthorn, although developed to a less degree in this respect than the Aberdeen Angus. The forehead is broad and prominent, and the face is short, tapering slightly toward the nose. The muzzle is full, with large, open nostrils. The horns are of medium size, even color, and extend from the head at right angles, level with the crops, curving forward and downward.

"The horns of the bull are somewhat coarser, straighter, and heavier. The neck is short, thick, and blends well with the shoulders. Great width, depth, length of chest, and a fulness of the crops give the Herefords the constitution and endurance which breeders have been careful to preserve. The loin is broad and deep, and the rump and hindquarters are usually well developed, carrying a large quantity of flesh. This portion of the body has been greatly improved within recent years, and the tendency to roughness and patchiness has been reduced until the breed now stands out as one showing extreme beef type, with smoothness of form and much quality. For these reasons, combined with its 'rustling' ability, the Hereford has become a popular breed for improving range stock. The results obtained by the use of Hereford bulls for this purpose have been very satisfactory to the cattlemen in the West and Southwest.

"The marked increase in the number of Hereford breeders in the Northwest would indicate that the breed is well adapted to a very cold climate as well as to that of the South. Neither the heat in the Corn Belt nor that in the South seems to bother them. They appear to be especially well adapted for use on the larger plantations, where animals are not given extremely good care and where the production of beef alone is desired. Two or three crosses on the native stock of the South produce a good beef animal that matures early and fattens well. On unimproved plantations or on farms with only fairly good pastures the Hereford gives better results than the Shorthorn. The rapid increase in the popularity of Herefords in this country is shown by the number of registrations and transfers in the last two years, as reported by the American Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association.

POLLED HEREFORD

"The Polled Hereford is a new breed which has been developed in America by

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The double-standard Polled Herefords are eligible to registry in both the American Hereford Herdbook and the American Polled-Hereford Record. They may be distinguished from the Hereford only by the polled characteristics.

NUTRITIVE VALUE OF MEAT

Following is a synopsis of an address delivered by E. B. Forbes, specialist in nutrition of the Institute of American Meat Packers, before the Chicago Housewives' League on March 13, 1922:

"Why discuss meat in the diet? (1) Since the day of our earliest human ancestors meat has been the main protein component of the human diet, beyond the age of infancy. (2) During recent years there has been a wide-spread, continuous, and persistent propaganda against the eating of meat. (3) Science has valuable new evidence to offer on the subject of nutritive value of meat. (4) The meat-producing industry—farmer and packer together—has just passed through, and is only beginning to emerge from, a period of disastrous losses. (5) Meat production is an essential factor of

our basic industry, agriculture, upon which all prosperity depends.

"Light is thrown upon the nutritive requirements of man by the history of his diet. From the early days in which he developed the pattern of his teeth, his digestive system, and his excretory organs, to the present, his prevailing diet has been one of mixed animal and vegetable food. Man is essentially an omnivorous feeder. His career as a farmer, and later as a manufacturer of foods, has been but a day in the evolution of the race. Man's present nutritive requirements are essentially those of his prehuman ancestors, and we are adding each year to our knowledge of the disturbing effects of departures from those ancient food habits to which we are by nature adapted.

"The natural place of meat in the diet is as a protein food, though it also contributes largely of phosphorus, iron, and palatability. In 1914-15 in New York City meat contributed to the prevailing diet about one-third of the protein and iron, and one-fourth of the phosphorus, at one-third of the total cost.

"The nutritive superiorities of meat depend on its protein, its iron, and its palatability. Phosphorus from other sources is as valuable as meat phos-

mating Hereford cattle that are naturally polled. It was established by Warren Gammon in 1901, and has increased in numbers and popularity at a fairly rapid rate in the last few years. Because a large percentage of the calves from horned-Hereford cows mated with Polled-Hereford bulls are without horns or even scurs, the Polled-Hereford breed has developed more rapidly than would have been possible otherwise. The popularity of polled cattle is steadily increasing, especially on smaller farms.

phorus. Meats make substantial contributions to the vitamins of the diet, but some other foods are richer in these components.

"Meat proteins have a superior nutritive value because they more closely resemble the tissues which are to be nourished than do other proteins, and can be transformed with less loss. Probably on this account, Funk, the physiologist, who named the vitamins, found that a diet containing meat requires less vitamins for perfect nutrition than any others. McCollum and associates have found that meat protein is superior even to milk protein for making good the deficiencies of the proteins of barley, peas, soy beans, rye, maize, navy beans, wheat, rolled oats, and potatoes.

"An especially marked superiority of meat as a food is in relation to the nourishment of the blood. Whipple and associates at the University of California Medical College found that beef muscle, heart, and liver were much superior to bread and skim-milk for restoring the blood to normal in simple anemia. They also found that Blaud's pills and other iron-containing drugs were quite without value for purposes of blood-regeneration. Their best results were obtained with heart and liver.

"As a matter of practical dietetics, however, no nutritive consideration compares, as a motive for eating meat, with the fact that we like it. Meat contributes more to the palatability of the diet than does any other food, primarily because of its nitrogenous extractives; and this palatability incites the stomach to secrete a gastric juice of higher digestive power than that due to the eating of other foods, as shown by Pawlow, the Russian physiologist.

"Meat also has a capacity, recognized by all physiologists, to stimulate the vital processes, which contributes a feeling of vigor and physical well-being that makes it virtually an essential in the diet of working-men, athletes, and soldiers.

"Meat in the diet also has a value in connection with the development of the teeth. Children reared on soft foods which require little mastication often suffer from lack of development of the jaw-bones and their alveolar processes, so that the teeth come through crowded, projecting, or crooked. Spare the meat-grinder, and save the teeth by teaching the child to use them. The aboriginal baby cut his teeth on a bone, and ate meat as soon as he could chew it. The child of two years has two teeth all the way around, back of the front set of four, above and below; and the United States Public Health Service advises the feeding of some meat to a child beginning at two years of age.

"In relation to disease, meat cures pellagra and anemia, and, under appropriate dietary conditions, scurvy and beri-beri as well. Phenomenal results were obtained in the Japanese navy in the cure of beri-beri by substituting meat for white rice in the ration.

"The leading pathologists of the United States agree that meat eaten in moderation, during health, is not known to cause any disease. Stefansson has shown that it is possible to live year in and year out on meat alone, provided it is not so thoroughly cooked as to injure the scurvy-preventing vitamin.

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260 Cows, 4 to 6 years old, Hereford
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"The gist of this whole matter is that we have new reasons for regarding meat highly, and we have no reasons for departing from those habits as to meat-eating which our own practical experience has led us to adopt."

THE COWBOY'S DICTIONARY

That the vocabulary of the men of the waning range may be preserved for future generations, Fred Beebe, of San Antonio, Texas, has compiled the following list of words and phrases characteristic of frontier days in the West:

Slick-ear—Yearling that has escaped branding or being ear-marked.

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24 Head	Regist'd	3-year-old	Bulls
30 Head	"	2-year-old	
25 Head	"	Calves	
15 Head	"	Yearling	Heifers
25 Head	"	Bred	

Beau Brummel, Beau Perfection and
Perfection Fairfax breeding.
Good size, good color.

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Melville, Montana

Round-up—Spring and fall gathering of cattle in order to brand calves or make shipments of beef.

Remuda—Mexican word meaning herd of saddle-horses used by cowboys when on round-up.

Chuck-wagon—Moving commissary wagon of round-up.

Chaperajos—Leather or hairy leggings worn by cowboys as protection against chaparral or mesquite brush and weather; shortened to "chaps."

Bedground—Spot selected for trail herd to be held overnight.

Cayuse—Indian pony.

Wild horses—Distinguished from buck-

ing horses, native to range, which have never been handled.

Outlaw—Bucking horse whose spirit is unconquerable.

Sun-fisher—Bucking horse twisting in air; usually very difficult to ride.

Pulling leather—Term applied to rider in grabbing any part of saddle in riding a bucking horse in order to steady himself; this disqualifies the rider. "Choking the horn," "grabbing the post," "reaching for the apple," "holding hands with old grandma," are all synonyms of "pulling leather."

Riding straight up—Sitting straight up in saddle, holding halter rein with one hand, the other high in air and scratching animal with heels while in motion.

Riding safe—Sitting tight in saddle, legs tightly clinched against horse's sides and spurs set firmly in cinch.

Sloppy riding—Sitting loosely in saddle, allowing body to flop about in response to pitching of animal.

Close seat—Steady and firm seat in saddle; otherwise called "sitting close to your wood."

Bucking straight away—Long jumps straight ahead without any twist, whirling, or rearing; not generally a hard horse to ride.

Seeing daylight—Term applied when rider leaves seat with each jump of horse, so spectators can see between rider and saddle.

Tenderfoot—One who doesn't know what these terms mean without consulting this dictionary.

UNITED STATES LEADS IN TELEPHONES

The extent to which the telephone has become part of the every-day life of the average American of today is indicated by the startling expansion of this service since the beginning of the twentieth century. In 1900 there was one Bell telephone station to every 90 people in the United States; at the end of 1921 there was one such station to every 8 people. While our population during that period increased 45 per cent, the number of telephones in use grew from 1,350,000 to 14,000,000, or 900 per cent.

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total population of the world, the United States has two-thirds of all the world's telephones (United States, 65 per cent; Europe, 25 per cent; all other countries, 10 per cent). There are more telephones in New York City alone than in any foreign country except Great Britain and Germany. Chicago has more telephones than France, Spain, and Portugal combined. Practically the only farm telephones in the world are found in the United States, where there are now over 2,500,000 such stations.

In the average number of calls the United States again is far in the lead. During 1920 talks per person in some of the principal telephone-using countries averaged as follows:

United States	172
Denmark	120
Germany	53
Switzerland	30
Great Britain	19
France	13
Belgium	10

HOGS DECREASE IN FIRST TWO MONTHS OF YEAR

Hogs on farms in the United States decreased 16.3 per cent between January 1 and March 1, 1922, according to the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates. In 1921 the decrease was 15.1 per cent for the same period, in 1920 14.8 per cent, and in 1919 17.2 per cent.

Cattle from January 1 to March 1, 1922, increased 1.75 per cent, as against an increase of 0.64 per cent in 1921, a decrease of 0.47 per cent in 1920, and an increase of 0.40 per cent in 1919.

These percentage estimates are based on reports from about 10,000 farms, which are treated as "samples."

WHY RAILROAD WORKERS QUIT

In the *Outlook* we find the following:

"A western railway's statistics as to the reasons why its laborers leave their jobs contain little stories of human interest. During nine months it hired 1,513 laborers. Of these, 744 did not report for work after being hired (perhaps on account of getting better jobs); 306 quit and gave no reported reason; 182 'wanted to move on'; 23 'didn't like their quarters'; 17 'could not mix in the gang'; 11 were dissatisfied with their food; 7 'had no blankets'; 5 'had no rain-clothes'; 1 claimed he was disabled by poison oak; and 1 frankly said 'he did not like railroad work.'"



O. J. Snyder Saddles

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Send for No. 22 Catalogue,
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THE WOMAN'S CORNER

SELF-RELIANCE

[Mabel Compton]

HOW MANY OF US have found the happiness for which in our youth we set out in such ardent search? How many of us have accomplished the things we planned? How many attained the success we were so sure was just around the corner? The twenties we spend in high hopes, chasing one will-o'-the-wisp after another. The thirties we spend with disillusionments and regrets, more or less. By the time we reach the forties we are considerably sobered. It may be that we assume a sour-grape attitude and say: "Oh, well, it didn't matter anyhow!" Or, it may be, we begin to look around and say: "Well, I wonder what was the matter! I was always looking for opportunities, always trying to do things and be things; yet I never really got very far. I have just been playing a game of hide-and-seek—and not found very much either. I wonder why!"

That is about the time to begin to turn back upon ourselves and look within. We may begin by asking ourselves a question—not the old question, "What is the matter with life?" but a new one, "What is the matter with me?" A little self-searching soon reveals the simple truth that we have been blundering about all these years, looking in the wrong place for things. We have been searching for health, success, or happiness among the externals, not realizing that happiness is to be found only within ourselves; that it is measured by our state of mind, our attitude, and is not nearly so dependent as we have imagined upon the fulness of our purse, other material possessions, or outer conditions generally. Perhaps life does not owe us so much, after all. Maybe we owe a little something ourselves—to life. And when we begin to see our own weakness, then we find our strength. Then we begin to lean upon ourselves—and only then can we go ahead; for we are not likely to get much more out of life than we put into it. It cannot pay rich dividends on a poor investment.

VITAMINE FOODS

A little information concerning the use of vitamines and the foods most plentifully supplying them means a better selection of foods and better health. Science does not tell us just what vitamines are, any more than it tells us what electricity is. But all are agreed that they are vital elements essential to life itself, and that without a sufficient supply of them we cannot expect to have normal health, energy, endurance, and disease-resistance.

Vitamines are classified into vitamine A, vitamine B, and vitamine C. Some scientists are adding a fourth vitamine, D, as a co-worker with vitamine A in the prevention and cure of rickets in children—a disease due to food deficient in bone-and body-building material.

Vitamine A is called the fat-soluble, because it dissolves in fat and is found in the fatty or oily matter of green and yellow vegetables, in butter and cream, egg yolks, and especially in cod-liver oil. Milk and fresh meats contain both vitamine A and vitamine C.

Vitamine A is indispensable for the growth of body tissues and maintenance of general health, but it does its work only in co-operation with vitamine B. B is a water-soluble, and is easily lost from the food in boiling. Such food should be boiled in as little water as possible, or the water should be allowed to boil down, and whatever juices remain should be served with the food. Vitamine B is the business partner of A, assisting in body-building, also supplying nerve force and preventing neuritis. It is found in the germ and outer covering of rice, wheat, and most other cereals, and in many green vegetables. But it is most abundant in yeast.

Vitamine C prevents bone-malnutrition. It is essential to growth and preservation of the teeth and their enamel. It increases body tone, and is the prevention and cure for scurvy. It is found in citrus fruits, in raw cabbage, and in most fresh, green vegetables; also in the milk and flesh of animals feeding on grass and other plants. C is very easily destroyed in cooking, canning, and sterilizing.

In general, it is better not to overcook foods, not to throw out the water from boiled foods, and to eat less cooked and more raw fruits and vegetables. If you are in doubt as to your vitamine supply and a bit out of sorts in general, try a salad of green vegetables each day, dressed with olive oil and lemon juice, served with whole-wheat bread or crackers and butter. Right there you have A, B, and C. It will do no harm, however, to add a cake of yeast a day, especially if troubled by constipation and "nerves."

THE NEW LINOLEUMS

Linoleum used to be for the kitchen and bathroom only. Now it offers advantages for every floor in the house, upstairs or down. Where a sanitary, durable, and attractive floor-covering is desired at comparatively low cost, it is given first choice by many, not only as a tacked-down covering or rug, but in many instances as the permanent flooring in the new house. In the latter case permanent linoleum floors are specified in the contract. Builder's felt is pasted to the floor. Over this is pasted the linoleum to within a few inches of the edge. Around all edges waterproof cement is spread on the felt. The linoleum is rolled into place by a heavy roller, or held in place for several hours by weights at joinings. Then the molding is put into place, and we have a fine, waterproof floor at half the cost of expensive polished wood.

The linoleum floor is soft and comfortable to the feet of the busy, and perhaps tired, housewife. Properly cared for, it is very easily kept clean. It does away with hard and frequent scrubbings. To get the greatest benefit from such a floor, it is best to have it waxed and polished. The wax protects the linoleum and makes cleaning a very simple matter. For the daily sweeping a long-handled sweeping-brush is used, or a soft, dry mop may be run over it to take up the dust. Spots may be wiped up with a damp cloth. Obstinate stains may require scouring with a stiff brush. Such spots should be rewaxed after cleaning. Only once in a great while does the whole floor need washing. Then only warm water and a mild soap are necessary.

Patterns and colorings are innumerable. There are various tile patterns for sun porch, kitchen, pantry, and bath; many natural wood designs for entire floors; handsome parquetry for halls; and in rugs anything from a cool, clean, old-fashioned blue-and-white rag design for the bedroom to the richest oriental patterns for the living-room. Economy is not their only advantage. They may

be quite as handsome as any but the finest carpets and rugs, and they are certainly much more sanitary and easily cared for.

BABY'S BATH

The skin of the little baby is exceedingly tender, and the greatest care should be used in handling and bathing. Tub baths should not be given until baby is a week or ten days old. Up to that time he is sponged off quickly and deftly while lying on a large soft towel on mother's lap or on a table, as she finds convenient. In either case the room should be thoroughly warm, but not stuffy. The temperature of the bath water should be about 98 degrees—just comfortable to the elbow. Only very mild, pure soap should be used. Baby's skin is very easily irritated and roughened by a strong soap. Pure castile is always safe. The face and head of a young baby should be washed without soap. All soap should be thoroughly rinsed from the body, and baby gently patted dry with a soft towel. Afterward a sparing sprinkle of good talcum powder may be used. However, if there is any tendency to chafing, it is better to omit the talcum and use instead a few drops of olive or sweet oil, patted on gently after drying thoroughly.

The best time for the bath is nine or ten o'clock in the morning, before the mid-morning feeding and nap. Bath time is the time to attend to the eyes, ears, and nose also. Gently wipe out the ears and nose with a little absorbent cotton wound on a toothpick and dipped in olive oil. Insert the ear-cleaner very cautiously and not too far. The eyes should be washed at least once a day for the first month. This should be done with cotton—a separate piece for each eye—saturated with a warm solution of boric acid. Should the eyelids be glued together at any time, do not attempt to force them apart, but carefully soak and wash away the discharge with the solution, bathing two or three times a day until the trouble disappears. If it persists or any marked inflammation appears, consult your doctor.

LEFT-OVER MEAT DISHES

English Cottage Pie

This is an appetizing dish made from the left-overs of Sunday's beef roast. Put the meat through the food-chopper, grinding fairly fine. Season with salt, pepper, and a little onion if liked, and moisten with gravy. Place in bottom of buttered baking-dish. Heap lightly over the meat an equal amount of mashed potatoes; dot over with bits of butter. Heat in oven until potatoes are nicely browned. With soup, lettuce salad, and dessert, this makes a good meal.

Veal Croquettes

The veal should be put through the coarse grinder of the food-chopper, or cut into small bits with chopping-knife. Prepare about an equal amount of heavy white sauce, made of half milk and half liquor in which the meat was cooked, thickened with flour and seasoned with salt and pepper. It should be smooth and quite thick. Melt a tablespoon or two of butter in a moderately heated frying-pan, and add flour, rubbing to a smooth paste. Add milk and liquor, stirring constantly. When done, remove from fire and cool. Add the chopped veal, a dash of sage, and a little onion juice. Mix well, mold in small shapes, dip in beaten egg, then in cracker crumbs, and fry in hot, deep fat to a golden brown. Serve with creamed peas.

Mutton Ragout

The left-over meat from a shoulder of mutton may be used for this dish, which is almost a meal in itself. Cut carrots, turnips, and potatoes into small cubes; cook these with a few tiny onions in some of the liquor in which the meat was boiled. When tender, add a cup of canned peas, and the cold mutton cut in small pieces. Cover, and heat for a few minutes—just long enough to heat the meat through. Dish up meat on a hot platter. Place vegetables around the meat. Thicken liquor in pot, and pour over the meat, but not over the vegetables. Around the dish place a border of steamed rice.

TIME FOR COOKING MEATS

Broiling

Steak (1 in. thick).....	8 to 10 minutes
Steak (1½ in. thick).....	12 to 15 minutes
Fish (slices)	15 to 20 minutes

Roasting

Rib of beef, per lb.....	10 to 15 minutes
Leg of mutton, per lb.....	10 to 15 minutes
Lamb, per lb.....	15 to 20 minutes
Veal, per lb.....	15 to 20 minutes
Pork, per lb.....	25 to 30 minutes
Chicken, per lb.....	15 minutes
Goose, per lb.....	18 minutes
Turkey (8 lbs.).....	2 to 3 hours
Large turkey	3 to 4 hours

Boiling

Leg of mutton.....	2 to 3 hours
Ham (12 to 14 lbs.).....	4 to 5 hours
Turkey (9 lbs.).....	2 to 3 hours
Chicken (3 lbs.).....	1 to 1½ hours

LETTER-BOX

When removing the paraffin from glasses of jelly and jam, rinse it off and lay aside in a jar or box. When you have quite an accumulation, melt it up and pour off into a small, oblong tin. When it is cold, you will have a brick of paraffin as good as new. Any jam that may have stuck to the pieces of paraffin will remain in the bottom of the melting pan.—EVA WILLIAMS.

* * *

An old magazine on the kitchen table is a convenience for standing pots and pans on that may be a little black on the bottom. The soiled page is easily torn off and thrown into the waste-basket. It saves much scrubbing of the table.—A. L.

THE KIDS' ORRAL

BILLY'S PENCIL AND PAPER

[Evaleen Stein]

"PHASHAW!" said Billy, scowling over his arithmetic problems and biting the end of his pencil, as he looked down at his writing-pad scrawled over with figures. "I can't put down the right answers to these—my pencil is too dull!"

"Humph!" said a fine, piping voice. "I'm a perfectly good pencil, and I guess it's you who are dull instead of me. And if you knew how much trouble it was to make me, you wouldn't be chewing me up like that."

"No," spoke up the writing-pad, "neither would you be scrawling me over the way you are, if you knew how long it takes to make a sheet of paper."

"What?" said Billy, bewildered. "I didn't know either of you was much bother to make."

"Well, we are," said the pencil, decidedly. "Do you happen to know, for instance, that I am made of graphite, or where it comes from?"

"No-no," admitted Billy. "I thought you were made of lead. If you're not, why are you called a 'lead-pencil'?"

"Oh," said the pencil, "because some silly person thought graphite looked something like lead, and called it 'black lead.' But it isn't. Lead is a metal, and graphite is not. It's first cousin to a chunk of anthracite coal and forty-second cousin to a diamond; they all belong to the same family. So you see I am a relative of your mother's diamond ring and your father's shirt studs. What do you think of that, young man?"

"Good gracious!" gasped Billy.

"Well," went on the pencil, "graphite is mined, just like coal; and, since you seem to know nothing about us pencils, I suppose you never heard of the famous Keswick mine?" (The pencil pronounced the place as if it were spelled "Kezzick," which is right, though you wouldn't think it.)

Billy shook his head. "Where is it?" he asked.

"In England," replied the pencil. "Nearly everyone who travels through Keswick brings home a few boxes of plaid lead-pencils for presents to their friends at home; for the Keswick folks are so proud of their pencil factory that they

take everybody to see it the first thing when he comes to town. The graphite there is the finest in the world, and it comes out in chunks no bigger than your fist. The mine is so valuable that off and on for two or three hundred years it was raided and fought over in the fiercest sort of way; and even within the last fifty years the miners were watched all the time by a couple of sheriffs with big blunderbusses, so they couldn't steal any of those precious black chunks. The mine used to be worked only once in seven years, because the owners didn't want too much fine graphite to get on the market—it might make those plaid pencils too cheap. And in those six off years, how do you suppose they made sure nobody could sneak in and dig?"

"I'm sure I don't know," said Billy.

"Why," replied the pencil, "they simply turned a small river into it; for, of course, it wouldn't be very easy to do much mining if you had to swim in with a pick-ax between your teeth."

"I should think not," said Billy, with a smile. "But how did they get the water out again?"

"Pumped it," answered the pencil, shortly. "Lots of trouble; but that shows how valuable good graphite is. All pencils are not made of that superfine kind, though. There are graphite mines in other places; but pencils are bother enough to make anyway, whether the graphite is fine or not."

"How is it done?" asked Billy, becoming interested.

"I'll tell you," replied the pencil. "In a long piece of wood, usually cedar, dozens of narrow round grooves are made. Then, when these have been filled with graphite, another piece of wood, grooved in the same way and spread with glue, is fitted on top, just as the two halves of a sandwich are stuck together by butter. Then the pieces of wood are sawed apart into as many pencils as there are grooves full of graphite, and each is shaped up and polished and painted, and its brand and number stamped on it in gold letters, and those that are to have rubbers are fitted with pieces of tin to hold the rubber. And I suppose you haven't the least idea where either one comes from?"

"No—not exactly," admitted Billy.

"I thought so," went on the pencil. "Well, I haven't time to tell you all about it now, but tin has to be dug out of mines, and have a lot of things done to it, before it's ready for the rubber; and that has to be made out of the sap of great, big rubber trees. And do you know where rubber trees grow?"

"No," said Billy, faintly, feeling very ignorant.

"Our trees grow in hot, tropical countries," spoke up the rubber—"South America and Africa. I came from Africa, and when I first ran out of my tree as sap I was quite white; I got gray from being boiled and worked with. Then I was loaded on the backs of black men—regular savages, with rings in their ears and noses, and their hair done up in top-knots—and they carried me ever so far through jungles full of lions and leopards and elephants. And then I came thousands of miles on shipboard before ever I reached the factory to get finished up and fastened into the tin ready to rub things out. You know that's why I'm called 'rubber.' The white people who first found out about our trees, and that the sap, when boiled down, would rub out, were so pleased that they called it 'rubber.' Of course, it made paper a lot more valuable if you could clean it off and use it again. They never thought then of making overshoes and raincoats and all sorts of things out of it, and it does seem funny now to call them 'rubbers,' and made out of 'rubber,' and 'rubber trees'; but that's my family name, and that settles it. I'm a real rubber, though—just meant to clean off paper."

"Yes," went on the pencil, "my rubber is perfectly right. It is meant to clean your paper, and not to be chewed along with my wood, as if I were a piece of Wriggly's gum!" And the pencil gave an injured sniff, while Billy looked guilty.

But on the writing-pad the paper was growing impatient. "I'm not so easy to make, either," it said; "and I don't care about being rubbed to pieces just for nothing! If a boy a thousand years ago had had me to write on, he would have considered me very precious and taken good care not to waste me, as you have done with your wretched scrawls!" And Billy looked still more guilty.

"You see," continued the paper, sharply, "people haven't always had me. Ages ago, what do you suppose they wrote on?"

"I don't know," replied Billy, meekly.

"Well, I'll tell you," went on the paper. "Over in Egypt a kind of reed, called 'papyrus,' grows along the river Nile, and folks used to slice the stems up very thin, and then arrange these slices crossways, on top of each other, till they made a good-sized sheet. They stuck the pieces

together with a little Nile mud, or else a kind of glue, and on this papyrus they wrote. Then they got to dressing down the skins of calves and sheep. When they were ready to use, they were smooth and handsome and cream-white, and called 'parchment' and 'vellum,' and people wrote on them with pens made of goose-feathers. But you needn't think anything so hard to prepare as papyrus or parchment or vellum was given to schoolboys to spoil. No, sir! Perhaps, if you had lived in Egypt at that time, you might have had a few scraps of them, if you were very, very careful; but if you had been a Roman boy, you would have had a piece of wood, called a 'tablet,' to use, about as big as a slate and coated with wax; and on this you would have had to write with a queer metal thing called a 'stylus,' shaped something like a lead-pencil—pointed at one end, but flat at the other. That would be to smooth the wax down with, if you made a mistake or wanted to use your tablet over again; like rubbing out things on a slate, you know."

"I don't think it would have been so handy as a slate, though," said Billy.

"No, it wasn't," replied the paper. "But nobody had heard of slates then. So, as I've been telling you, most people used papyrus and parchment and vellum and wax tablets for hundreds of years; though away off in China they had found out how to make a kind of paper out of cotton. They made it, too, out of the inside bark of trees, and the stalks of rice and bamboo; and then they began using linen rags. After a long while the secret of making paper spread to Persia and Arabia; and then, you know, it was getting near Europe. For I suppose you do have a little idea of geography?" And the paper looked at Billy inquiringly.

Billy turned red, as he tried hard to think where Arabia and Persia were. "Oh, yes," he said at last; "I've read about them in the 'Arabian Nights.' They are—they are—somewhere in—in—"

The paper sighed. "Well," it said, "you certainly are not a prize pupil, and it wouldn't be the least use for me to tell you anything more about the way paper is made; for you wouldn't understand it. But, really, to take some cotton, or bark, or bamboo, or rice stalks, or old linen rags, and turn them into a fine, beautiful sheet of paper is pretty nearly as wonderful as to see a magician pull a rabbit out of an empty pill-box. So, young man, don't you think it's about time for you to quit scrawling over me? And don't you think, too, it would be a good thing for you to pay a little more attention to your books? And remember, if it hadn't been for paper-making and the invention of printing, they would be too scarce for

you to have any. But there they are, their nice, clean pages—except the ones you've mussed up and dog-eared—all ready to tell you no end of interesting things. And—well, really, if I were you, I'd hate to be quite so frightfully ignorant!"

Billy didn't say anything, but he straightened up and stopped chewing his pencil, and looked with more respect at his books and writing-pad, and began to think that maybe for a boy of his age he didn't know very much—and he actually began to study.

THE POETS' DEN

If in the poem reproduced below from the *Pastoral Review* of Melbourne, Australia, we substitute "ranch" for "station," how far does it apply to American conditions?

STATION LIFE

(W. M. F.)

This is the story of station life,
Told as it used to be
In the days when the station hand owned his
soul,

In the days when a man was free.

The hut was poor, and the food was rough,
And the wages none too high;
But a man might take to a station job
And stay till his time to die.

For the runs were wide, and the bosses men
Who looked on their men as men,
With a will of their own and a love of their
work,
As they mostly found them then.

And every man took a pride to know
That the wool had topped the sales,
Or the station horse first passed the post
And drew his weight at the scales.

For boss and men were a friendly lot,
Who laughed at each other's ways,

But stood to each other at every pinch
In the good old station days.

But this is the story of station life
As you mostly find it now:
The boss comes out with a hard-set mouth,
And a scowl upon his brow.

And the men appear in a surly style,
And take no pride in toil,
But waste their time in an endless talk
Of how to get the spoil.

And every job that they're sent to do
Is done with a grudge and curse,
While the boss looks on in a savage style,
With his temper growing worse.

For no one cares if the blanky wool
Should sink in the deep salt sea,
But only asks himself every hour:
"Now, what's in the game for ME?"

So this is the story of station life
As you find it told today;
For the delegate preaching discontent
Has passed along this way.

And the good old times, when the station folk
Found life so wide and free,
Have passed with the smile of the station
hand,
To the days that used to be.

THE SPICE BOX

Natural Alarm Clock.—MacTavish—"Ay, it's a wunnerfu' echo. When folk roond about here gang tae their beds, they juist put their heids oot o' the window an' shout, an' the echo waukens them i' the mornin'!"—Passing Show.

Definition by Example.—Joe—"Ere, Curly! You know everything—what's a cosmopolitan?"

Curly—"Well, it's like this: Suppose you was a Russian Jew livin' in England, married to a black woman, an' you'd just finished a bit of Irish stew, an' was smokin' an Egyptian cigaret, while a German band outside was playin' the 'Blue Bells o' Scotland'—you'd be a cosmopolitan!"—Bystander.

Grew on Him.—"Did you really call this gentleman an old fool last night?" asked the judge.

The prisoner tried hard to collect his thoughts.

"Well, the more I look at him, the more likely it seems that I did," he replied.—Lawyer and Banker.

Feebly Rooted.—"Which weeds are the easiest to kill?" asked young Flickers of Farmer Sassafrass, as he watched that good man at his work.

"Widow's weeds," replied the farmer. "You have only to say 'Wilt thou?' and they wilt."—Weekly Telegraph (London).

NEW TARIFF SCHEDULES

The long-awaited tariff measure was finally reported to the Senate by the Finance Committee on April 11. Following are the proposed import duties on the more important agricultural products (see also editorial, page 17):

Live Animals

Cattle, weighing over 1,050 pounds, 2 cents a pound; weighing less than 1,050 pounds, 1½ cents a pound.

Sheep and goats, \$2 per head.

Swine, ½ cent a pound.

Meat Products

Fresh beef and veal, 3½ cents a pound. Mutton, 2½ cents a pound.

Fresh pork, ¾ cent a pound.

Bacon, hams and shoulders, and other pork prepared or preserved, 2 cents a pound.

Lard, 1 cent a pound; lard compounds and substitutes, 5 cents a pound.

Butter and oleomargarine, 8 cents a pound.

Hides and Shoes

Cattle hides, green, 2 cents a pound; dried, 4 cents a pound.

Shoes, 6 to 12 cents a pair and 5 per cent ad valorem.

Wool

Wool and mohair, 33 cents a pound on clean content.

Wools, unmixed, in the grease, 12 cents a pound; washed, 18 cents; scoured, 64 cents; imported on the skin, 11 cents; top waste, 33 cents.

Manufactured wool, 36 cents a pound and 25 per cent ad valorem.

The wool schedule contains a provision that, if wools are imported under bond, and within three years satisfactory proof is furnished that they have been used in the manufacture of rugs or carpets, the duties will be remitted.

Cereals and Cotton

Wheat, 30 cents a bushel.

Corn, including cracked, 15 cents a bushel.

Oats, 15 cents a bushel.

Barley, 20 cents a bushel.

Rye, 15 cents a bushel.

Cotton, long-staple, 7 cents a pound.

INBREEDING AND LINE-BREEDING

"Inbreeding means mating a daughter with her sire, a son with his dam, granddam, great-granddam, etc.," says the *Iowa Homestead*. "It also includes the mating of brother and sister. The object of inbreeding is to intensify the blood line of one or more animals in the offspring, or to maintain the two blood lines of the sire and dam, as in the case of breeding brother to sister. When a bull is bred to his daughter, the offspring carries 75 per cent of the sire, while, if a dam is bred to her son, the offspring carries 75 per cent of the dam's blood. If this is carried to the next generation—that is, when a bull is bred to his granddaughter—the offspring carries 87.5 per

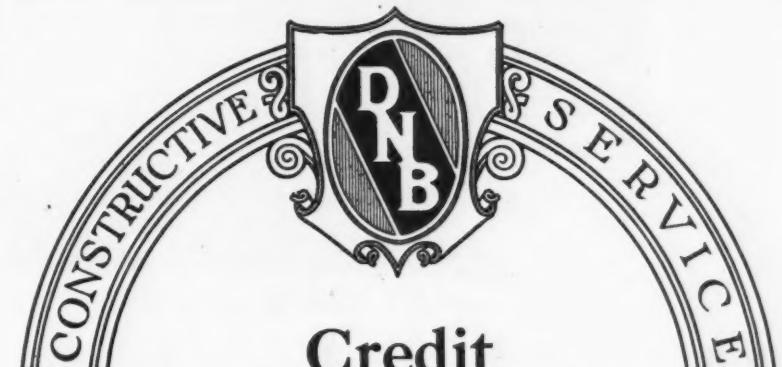
cent of the sire's blood. The same principle, of course, prevails in the female line of descent.

"Thus it will be seen that inbreeding offers a most effective means of concentrating the blood line of one animal in his or her offspring. Sometimes this is very desirable and has been attended with marked success, but it also has its disadvantages. While the good characters of an animal may thus be reproduced to their fullest extent in the offspring, one must not lose sight of the fact that any undesirable characters the animal may have will also be reproduced and intensified. It not infrequently happens that the intensified undesirable characters may do more harm than the intensified desirable characters will benefit. For this reason none but expert breeders should practice inbreeding, and even they must be exceedingly careful not to mate animals unless they are both unusually well developed in every particular. It is an easy matter to lose vitality and stamina through continued inbreeding. No man should make use of it unless he is an unusually good judge

of the class of animals he is breeding and unless he fully appreciates the dangers that beset the practice. In fact, it should be practiced only by masters of the art of breeding.

"Line-breeding is inbreeding to a certain extent; in fact, it has been rather aptly called scientific inbreeding. As the name indicates, it is carried on for the purpose of perpetuating certain blood lines within one or more families. The line-breeders begins by inbreeding for at least three generations, which is termed one cycle in line-breeding. Line-breeding differs from inbreeding in that close inbreeding is carried on only up to a certain point, and also in that two lines of descent are maintained, so that at any desirable period blood from both lines of descent may be introduced in the offspring."

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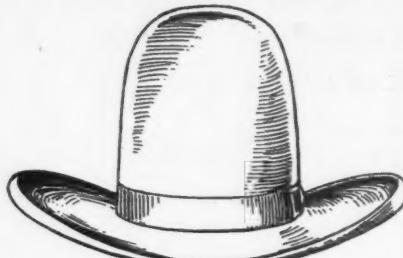
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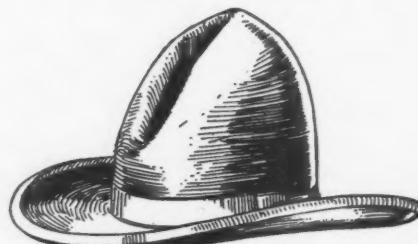
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(Entered as Second-Class Matter June 11, 1919, at the Post Office at Denver, Colorado, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for Mailing at Special Rate of Postage Provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, Authorized on September 21, 1921.)



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